

# THE JOURNAL

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**Cityside** On the run with an elementary school principal [A4]**Daylight savings** Remember to turn your clocks back an hour on Sunday

## Some support for retaining redevelopment

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO — The Redevelopment Advisory Committee does not think the Redevelopment Agency should suspend activities.

In a vote that reflects division in the city about the question of redevelopment, the RAC voted 3-2 to recommend that the City Council adopt an alternate report on redevelopment instead of the Services for the 21st Century Committee of the Whole report.

The RAC essentially rejected a proposal from the Committee of the Whole that the Redevelopment Agency go into hiatus for up to four years.

Most other recommendations in the alternate report echo recommendations in the Committee of the Whole report.

Two of seven RAC members were absent from last Monday's meeting, which included about 12 members of the public, two City Council members and city staff. The City Council still has to decide which report to adopt and which recommendations to accept.

"The Committee of the Whole's facts are incorrect and their conclusions are incorrect," RAC member William Commerford said at the meeting. Commerford said that five years ago "three incumbent council members were re-elected on a pro-redevelopment platform" and that four years ago voters reaffirmed their support for redevelopment.

Commerford maintained that some people opposed to redevelopment have used the Services for the 21st Century task force "as a ploy to come in through the back door and stage a kamikaze attack" on redevelopment.

But in presenting the Committee of the Whole report at the meeting, com-

"If you want to say the Redevelopment Agency doesn't function well, it's the council that's not functioning well — because they control it."

— Joseph Grossman, Redevelopment Advisory Committee member

mittee member and Financial Review Team chairman Steve Magary urged RAC members to recommend the City Council adopt the committee's report.

"The whole thrust of the report is — put the agency back with the original agreement," Magary said.

He said city staff support time should be tracked and paid for by the agency, and that interest and Redevelopment Agency debt to the city needs to be repaid. "Get rid of this problem. Repay the debt so that we get that monkey off our back, then we have a mechanism that allows us to go ahead and look at the other issues facing the city," Magary said.

"Otherwise I think we'll be back in a quagmire — we'll have another three years of political fighting and infighting — and nobody will benefit."

The Financial Review Team worked

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THE ALBANY PHILLIES joined other teams in saying the Pledge of Allegiance at ceremonies following the traditional parade that marks the opening of baseball season.

SHARON STEINMANN

## Young players salute pioneers

By James Carter

ALBANY — The sun shined and butterflies fluttered in a spring breeze Saturday as over 300 members of Albany Little League and Berkeley/Solano girls softball paraded down Solano Avenue.

Together they celebrated opening day, Albany's 44th, in a ritual as anticipated as summer. This year's festivities also honored a select group of people who made the trek many times before, only this time, most made the trip in a classic car.

Ballplayers and parents recognized eight superstars, individuals who have devoted hundreds of afternoons to call-

ing games and coaching, selling hot dogs and soda, all so kids could play baseball.

The list of the volunteers is a who's who of Albany. It includes Del Wisenor, Jim Scoggins, Fern and Bob Luoma, Jack Rosano, Bill Lewis, Durnt Danner and his beloved wife Elizabeth, who passed away last year.

Sirens blared from police cars and fire engines; members of the Giants, Athletics and 22 other teams ambled down the road with smiles as fresh and wide as the blue sky.

### Snapshots and cheers

Parents proudly followed sons and

daughters as they passed budding trees planted last fall. They took snapshots, shouted cheers and followed their children down the street, never more than a step behind.

Players walked nearly a mile before entering Albany Village and the gate of the south field diamond. As they circled around the infield there, each team a wavelength of color, the grass was as cool as Cordones Creek babbling in the shade nearby.

League President Rex Higginbotham welcomed the crowd and special guests,

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## AUSD eyes athletic field changes

Improvements are probably at least six years away

By James Carter

ALBANY — The Board of Education held a town hall meeting March 24 in the AHS Little Theater to "gather input" from the public regarding a yet-to-be-developed master plan for Cougar Field, Albany High School's outdoor athletic facilities.

Residents from Albany and El Cerrito attended the hearing, made suggestions and raised issues regarding future use of the park. Built beside Cerrito Creek, the field is adjacent to the new middle school currently under construction and scheduled to open in the fall. The field contains the high school's baseball, football, and track and field facilities.

Superintendent Dale Hudson chaired the informal gathering attended by approximately 20 people. A schematic diagram near the stage up front showed Cougar Field as it currently exists.

Phil Singer from Singer & Hedges Construction then presented a slide show featuring photographs from athletic fields developed using a variety of approaches to construction. He said one of the ma-

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COUGAR FIELD'S narrow track would need substantial work to be brought up to regulation.

## United Teachers of Richmond rejects pay offer

By Tony Mercado

West Contra Costa Unified teachers are threatening to strike unless the district pays them on a par with their colleagues in other Bay Area school districts.

Talks between the United Teachers of Richmond and the district broke down late last month after the district offered a 4 percent salary increase for its 1,900 teachers. Union leaders say the district's offer is misleading and actually amounts to only a .5 percent increase for this year.

Union president Marta Dragos called the offer "insulting" and said it is not enough to justify working in crumbling

facilities with poor resources.

With talks at an impasse, the state's Public Employees Relations Board has assigned a mediator who will meet with both sides next week. Teachers continue to work under their old contract, which expired June 30. Dragos said the impasse has prompted talk of a strike.

"A strike is always a possibility, although we hope it doesn't come to that," Dragos said. "But we are ready to fight for a fair and equal salary."

The district's attorney and lead negotiator, Paul Loya, could not be reached for comment. Assistant Superintendent

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Even though we reach more readers in your community than any other newspaper, economic reality makes it impossible for us to deliver the paper to all the homes in our coverage area. In order to expand the coverage of The Journal, we will soon be "rotating" our delivery schedule so more homes in Albany, El Cerrito and Kensington can get a taste of the area's favorite newspaper. This means that we can only guarantee consistent weekly delivery to the readers who have paid subscriptions. All others will continue to get the paper, but on an intermittent basis.

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Scott Little  
Publisher, The Journal

## Local Easter events for young and old

### El Cerrito egg hunt

The City of El Cerrito sponsors its annual Easter Egg Hunt at Arlington Park, 1120 Arlington Blvd. on Saturday April 4, at 10 a.m. sharp. The Easter Bunny will be on hand to give out treats and take pictures with the children. This event is funded completely by donations. If you would like, to make a contribution or for further information call 215-4376.

### Albany Hill service

At 8 a.m. on Easter morning there will be a community sunrise service at the foot of the cross on Albany Hill to which all are invited. Nestled in the scenic setting of a eucalyptus forest, the cross appropriately faces the rising sun looking across the East Bay hills. The simple 45-minute service will consist of traditional Easter hymns, the reading of the Gospel account of the resurrection, special music and a brief message.

The hilltop site may be reached off of San Pablo Avenue by going west on Solano Avenue, right on Cerrito Street to Hillside Avenue, a quick sharp left on Hillside Avenue and a

quick sharp right on Taft Avenue. Parking is along Taft. From the top of Taft follow the trail south to the cross.

The Albany Hill Sunrise Service is sponsored by area ministers and the Albany Lions Club and will have special meaning this year because it will be the first service since the cross was rebuilt following its being torn down by vandals. In addition, this will be the first service since the recent death of former Albany mayor, Red Call, who donated the property for the cross and was the inspiration for its construction.

This Easter, pastors from four area churches will take part in the service, Flavio Carvalho, from El Cerrito Christian Center, Tom Johnston from Trinity Evangelical Free Church in El Cerrito, Sherman Moyer from First Baptist Church in Albany and Harvey Newton from Westbrae Bible Church in Berkeley.

### Annual Albany Spring Fair

The Easter Bunny will be arriving at the Albany Memorial Park, Portland Avenue and Ramona Street, on Saturday, April 3, for a morning of fun and games at the Spring Fair. The Easter Bunny will be happy to pose for pictures with

children of all ages, so be sure to bring your cameras. The Easter Egg Hunt will begin at 10 a.m. sharp and will be divided by age levels so that all children can participate. The Games and Arts & Crafts booths will be open immediately after the Egg Hunt and will continue until noon. Admission to the Spring Fair and Egg Hunt is free, and tickets to participate in the other activities will be on sale. The refreshment booth will be open before the Egg Hunt and will have beverages and snacks available to purchase throughout the morning. Two free puppet shows will occur at 11 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. The fair will move to the Albany Community Center if it is raining that day. This annual event is sponsored by the Albany Preschool in association with the City of Albany Recreation and Community Services Department, with donations from local businesses and service organizations.

Come celebrate "new life" on Sunday at Albany United Methodist Church, 980 Stannage Ave., at Marin in Albany. Worship is at 10 a.m. followed by fellowship at 11:15 a.m. The Easter egg hunt is at 11:30 a.m., so bring the kids.

## Classes offered by El Cerrito

The City of El Cerrito will be offering a new series of classes. They are:

**Jaw, Neck and Shoulders Relief?** Using the Feldenkrais method of somatic education, learn how to find relief from pain caused by tension and neuromuscular habits. Monday, April 5-26, 6-7 p.m. Fee is \$20 for residents, \$25 for non-residents.

**"Self Defense for Women."** Join this ongoing class on self defense based on the techniques of Wing Tsung. Wednesday, April 7-28, 7-8 p.m. Fee is \$20 for residents, \$25 for non-residents.

**"Women's Self Defense."** The key to self defense is a willingness and an ability to take instant action. This class will give you the tools to assess your options and to take action. Workshop, Saturday April 10, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Fee is \$20 for residents, \$25 for non-residents.

**"Beginning Swing, Jitterbug."** Thursdays, April 8-29, 4:30-5:45 p.m.

**"Beginning West Coast Swing."** Thursdays, April 8-29, 5:45-7 p.m. Fee for above two classes is \$28 for residents, \$35 for non-residents.

**"Jazz Tap Dance."** This class is

for beginning and intermediate ages 10 and older, have fun while keeping fit. Thursdays, April 8-29, 7-8 p.m. Fee is \$28 for residents and \$35 for non-residents.

**"Rhythm and Modern Dance."** Learn modern dance by discovering rhythm which is the fundamental of all dance and apply that knowledge creatively and technically. This class is designed for ages six to eight. Tuesdays, April 6-27, 5-5:45 p.m. Fee is \$27 for residents, \$33.75 for non-residents.

**"Creative Dance Movement."** Have fun discovering dance using our bodies in a relaxed and less structured dance class. This class is designed for ages three and up. Tuesdays, April 6-27, Fee is \$27 for residents and \$33.75 for non-residents.

**"Camera Basics."** Explore the manual 35 mm single lens reflex camera and basic picture taking techniques. Learn about cameras and film. Mondays days April 5-26, 4-6 p.m. Fee for residents is \$25 and \$31.25 for non-residents.

**"Basic Dog Training."** This class is for dogs four months or older and may be used as a first time formal dog training course or a refresher course. Tuesdays April 6-27, 6-7:30 p.m. Fee is \$28 for residents and \$35 for non-residents.

**"Acting for Fun."** This class will offer comprehensive and effective techniques to develop students' capabilities to read body language, and to use it to influence mind and well-being. This class is open to students 14 years and older. Fridays April 12-23, 7-8 p.m. Fee is \$28 for residents and \$35 for non-residents.

**"Golf."** This program has been specifically designed to meet the needs of the new golfer. It is absolutely the best way to get started in golf. This is an on course class with instructor and the minimum age requirement is 12-years-old. No equipment is required. Tuesday April 6-27, 5:30-6:30 p.m. Fee is \$135 for residents and \$168.75 for non-residents.

Details: Judie Bellotti, 215-4371.

## WORTH CHECKING OUT

### Growing orchids

The El Cerrito Garden Club will meet at 9:30 a.m. on April 8 in the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane. Paula Shiu, president of the California Orchid Society, will speak about "Growing Orchids in the Home and Garden." Visitors welcome. A guest fee of \$3 is charged.

### Mosaic Arts Academy

The City of El Cerrito Youth Services located at 7007 Moeser Lane is presenting Mosaic Art Academy, "Charcoal & Pastels, Collage, Cartooning, and Kids Crafts." These four classes will be offered for youths age 6 to 14 years old. Classes will be held at Tascala Clubhouse of El Cerrito Community Center. For more information please call Lisa between 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 215-4370.

### Food, crafts, white elephants

The Friends of Albany Seniors are holding their annual White Elephant, Bake and Crafts sale at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave. on Saturday, April 10 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Details:

Anne Haden, vice president of Friends of Albany Seniors at 527-9413 or e-mail at: eville@flash.net

### Scholastic Book Fair

A Scholastic Book Fair will be held Monday, April 12 through Friday, April 16 in the Multipurpose Room of Castro Elementary School, 7125 Donal Ave., El Cerrito. The hours will be noon to 3 p.m. daily, plus 7 to 8:30 p.m. Thursday. Proceeds benefit Castro PTA.

### Prepared party

El Cerrito and Kensington residents are invited to a drop-in open house Preparedness Party on Saturday, April 20 from 7:15 - 9:15 pm at the Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington.

Bring your family, your friends, and your neighbors. Kids welcome. The party will include an earthquake shake table, exhibits, displays, emergency supplies, kid's activity room, prizes, free stuff, refreshments. Resource people will be available to discuss Y2K and other preparedness issues. Sponsored by NEAT, the emergency pre-

paredness program offered by the Fire Department. Information: Pat Caffel, 525-7268. On Sunday, May 2, the Kensington Lions are having a free breakfast for the community. The Lions are providing the breakfast in appreciation of the help of the community in providing over 1,200 pairs of used eyeglasses, as well as coming to the Spring clean-up and supporting the two Oktoberfests the Lions put on. The event is at the Youth Hut, 59 Arlington Ave., across from the Arlington Community Church, from 9 a.m. to noon.

For further information contact Al Caruso at 527-4640.

### Vista, MacGregor farewells

Vista and MacGregor Primary schools

in Albany are scheduled to close in June and move to the "old" middle school site as Ocean View Elementary.

Volunteers are needed now to help with preparation of "Fond Farewell Parties" on May 23. If you have photos and/or can volunteer, contact Joan Post at 528-5250 or Adele Helmgren at 526-9062.

### Between 3 and 4 p.m. March 14, a thief entered the laundry room

of an apartment building on the 600 block of Kearney Street and stole bicycle shirts left unattended in a bas-

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Micelle Davis is applauded by volunteers and dignitaries at the March 25 celebration of the completion of her home. On left going up the stairs: Albany Councilman Allan Maris, Berkeley Councilwoman Margaret Brelan, Berkeley Police Chief D.E. Butler, Berkeley Councilwoman Linda Maio. Top at right side entrance is Davis, with Lisa Bullwinkel, Christa Hill and Eric Strimling.

## Warm, secure and appreciated 2-year-old resident is beneficiary of Christmas in April

By James Carter

BERKELEY — Micelle Davis had just in front of her home March 25 and dozens of people gathered to watch her accept a Christmas present.

There was no box to open nor a ribbon to cut, though Berkeley Mayor Shirley Dean was there. What Davis did receive was a guarantee next winter, her house will stay warm. What's more her walls won't stay dry, and she'll be able to take a warm shower and a hot bath. "They're going to fix the roof, and are doing some painting — it's real bad outside," Davis said. "And they're doing some fixin' in the bathrooms, you know — the showers need some work. And what's more, they're going to install a high riser in the bathroom," Davis said as she laughed, "and that will be real nice, too."

### One of many to benefit

Ms. Davis is one of many individuals that have benefited from the work of Christmas in April.

Organized to combat problems of inadequate housing and to encourage neighborhood involvement in "addressing the needs of the local community," Christmas in April was established in the East Bay in 1991, according to Christine Mayer-Patel.

The assistant director of the program said their mission is "to enable elderly to live healthier, safer, more independent lives of their own choosing, and under their own control." "Christmas in April" is "non-denominational," Mayer-Patel said, and works with many different groups of volunteers, from churches and synagogues to student groups at UC Berkeley.

Service groups, businesses and local residents get involved as well, and their help is essential to the

groups' success.

Local officials have played a big role in supporting the non-profit's efforts, Mayer-Patel said. Mayor Shirley Dean and Berkeley Chief of Police Dashi Butler were there at the party March 25. And Butler, who is very active in the group, applied the first coat of primer to Ms. Davis' front porch soon after Dean gave Davis a big hug.

"Christmas in April" President Lisa Bullwinkel welcomed the crowd, which was larger than Ms. Davis expected.

Albany City Councilman Allan Maris was there as well to help out as he does frequently, Mayer-Patel said. Also present from Albany was Bill Cain, a member of the Board of Education ready to go to work.

"I didn't know it was going to be that big," Davis said after the party. "Yeah, everyone passing by wondered what was going on."

### Homeowners in need

Volunteers are needed to help with the work of "Christmas in April." The organization sorely needs donations to pay for the work that they do. Staff members say every dollar that is donated to the organization allows volunteers to complete \$6 worth of free home repairs.

"Make sure you tell all the people I am one happy woman, because I am," Ms. Davis declared. "All I can say is I am one happy woman," Ms. Davis, adding "Thank you Christmas in April."

For more information: 644-8979, or visit their web site at: www.christmas-in-april.org/abe.html

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# She's not one of 'them'

Columnist preaches to the conservative choir

By J.R. Deaton

EL CERRITO—Newspaper columnist Debra J. Saunders does not suffer fools and liberals lightly.

Just in the past few months, she has cast a cold eye on such topics as the Oakland school district's Mumia Abu-Jamal teach-in, Elizabeth Dole's Oval Office possibilities, pro-life terrorists, Team Clinton's Juanita Broaddrick denials, Mike Wallace and his suicide report, Al Gore's proposed 211 national traffic hot-line, Major General David Hale's dangerous liaisons and an American Psychological Association report that implies that child sexual abuse doesn't leave as many emotional scars as one would think.

The syndicated San Francisco Chronicle columnist has a conservative world view and has been raising hackles and blood pressures in the liberal Bay Area since her column began running in July 1992.

Her syndicated column now runs in more than 35 newspapers including the Detroit Free Press, (Portland) Oregonian, Washington Times and St. Louis Post-Dispatch. Last Friday, during an early evening dinner meeting, Saunders spoke to about 35 members of the Kensington-El Cerrito Congress of Republicans. She gave an informal and interesting account of state and local politics and touched on such topics as diamond lanes, Gray Davis, abortion, user-unfriendly BART practices and the perils of being a conservative island in a sea of liberalism.

"Years ago I worked on a (political) campaign and I worked with a guy who was a real jerk," Saunders said to explain how she got into journalism. "He actually got an op-ed piece in the Wall Street Journal, and I said 'that idiot can get in the Wall Street Journal, I can too,'" she explained. The difficulty, she said, is not being a woman in the profession — it's being a conservative woman in the profession.

You know that the Bay Area believes in diversity, but not necessarily in diversity of thought," Saunders, 44, told the local Republicans. Saunders said "I look like a Democrat" and said that when she arrived at the Chronicle people "thought I was going to be talking about 'save the whales' and 'trees are more important than people,'" she explained. But when she began to gore liberal oxen and to chide liberal Gore, Saunders said, some people soon realized "she's not one of us."

In the late 1980s, when she was a columnist and editorial writer at the Los Angeles Daily News, she would be asked to join discussion panels as the female voice. The organizers soon found out that Saunders' voice was more conservative than female, which would upset their version of a balanced discussion.

In her talk last week, Saunders proved true to form and didn't shy away from tough topics. She began



Conservative columnist Debra Saunders ventured into El Cerrito last week to offer her views to local Republicans.

by talking about abortion.

"I strongly respect what they want to do, but I don't think that we ought to let them take over the Republican party — and they have," Saunders said about pro-life advocates. As a result, she said, Republican presidential candidates not only have to declare themselves pro-life, but they have to promise not to pick a pro-choice running mate — or nominate pro-choice judges if elected. "So we have this return to the litmus test," Saunders explained. "We're returning to this incredibly strict time."

Before the talk, the Republican hosts had passed out a copy of a Saunders column that decried the current Republican stand against abortion to be "the suicide plank." Saunders argued that the GOP stand against abortion "drives women from the party" and hurts the chances of a Republican return to the White House.

But Saunders said that for many people "abortion is shorthand" for larger political questions. The real question, she said, is: "Do you believe in big government in terms of morals?" She said that polls indicate people don't want big government. "People look at candidates and when they hear 'pro-life,' they fill in the blanks," and don't vote for that candidate, Saunders contended.

Saunders said a pro-life advocate recently urged her to support the idea of denying state health benefits for women who have more than one abortion per calendar year. "I thought 'If there's anybody I want to have —

who I think should have an abortion — it's somebody who gets pregnant twice in one year who doesn't want the child,'" Saunders told the group.

"I'm sorry," Saunders said, "we're not talking about people who are necessarily going to be good moms." She said the pro-lifers are "sticking to this overly strong agenda" and that for many of them "it's not just pro-life — for many of them it's anti-birth control."

Saunders praised Democratic Gov. Gray Davis' education bills currently being debated in Sacramento. "I do think that Gray realizes that schools have to do better," she said. "And let's face it, it would be hard for them not to."

Davis is pushing for a high school exit exam and Saunders said high school seniors should be required to take the CBEST test in order to graduate. Currently, would-be teachers and administrators have to take the exam before working in California public schools. CBEST is a 10th-grade level test in reading and writing and an eighth-grade level test in math. Saunders took the test herself, and told the group "I couldn't believe how easy it was."

### Anti-car: A Democratic thing

When she talked about roads and transportation issues, Saunders was less bi-partisan.

"Democrats don't like cars," Saunders contended. "People who drive in motorcades don't think that you

See SAUNDERS, Page A12

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# Constant motion — it's all part of the principal's job

■ Our intrepid reporter spends a day trying to keep up with an elementary school principal.

By J.R. Deaton

**EL CERRITO** — Harding Elementary School Principal Harlan Kerr is a hurricane of activity between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. most mornings; after that things calm down to whirwind status.

He is in constant motion — directing this student here — another there; one girl is admonished: "Show me your personal best."

A boy is told to go back and try walking down the hall instead of running. "I know that one of our life skills is waiting patiently," he tells a group of impatient kids. One young man is praised for scholastic improvement and later a girl comes into Kerr's office to ask if she can read her assignment to him. The girl does a good job reading and the principal lets her choose a small prize from a box he has in the closet filled with colorful rings, little stuffed animals and sundry treasure. One lad comes in to the office to have his ankle checked; another complains of a sore shoulder and yet another has a "hurting" thigh he hopes will get him out of class for a while. Kerr and officer manager Penny Souza double as nurses from time to time throughout the day.

During recess a group of girls come tell Kerr that there's "bark in the bathroom" and another girl complains that "Larry and Tony are talking about my family." One boy hits another and Kerr has to sort things out and finally gets them to shake hands. During the first lunch period, Kerr has to grab a mop to clean up some spilled milk. In his office a nail has worked its way out of the door frame and the principal finds a hammer and quickly fixes the problem. On the playground, a little boy comes up to complain that a little girl hit him "for no reason" and two kids sneak up behind Kerr to give him hugs and smiles.

"Being a principal is kind of like that old Peace Corps commercial," Kerr explained. "It's the toughest job you'll ever love."

Kerr, 52, began teaching in 1969 and is in his second year as Harding principal. He has a ruffled look — he can't seem to keep chalk off his shirt; his shoes are well worn and unpolished; his khaki pants are frayed at the edges. The principal walks with a slight limp from an old skiing accident and seems to solve more problems before noon in a single day than most people address in a month of Sundays.

And on top of everything else, as part of the Chamber of Commerce's Principal for a Day project, Kerr had a reporter and a photographer following him around Wednesday of last week to make his day just a little more "interesting."

The Harding School day begins with a general assembly in the auditorium. The sharp and excited shouts and voices of more than 480 children fill the wood-beamed auditorium. Some of the kids are deaf or hard of hearing and use sign language to communicate (Harding is the district's designated elementary school for hearing impaired students). There are "special ed" kids who have severe emotional problems and average kids who like to share information at high decibels.

Kerr said the general assembly reminds the students that they are a "community" and part of the broader school. "Ladies and gentlemen, I need you all to be quiet" he tells the group while standing in front of them on the stage. After greetings and such things as reminders that pinching will not be tolerated on St. Patrick's Day ("it escalates really fast" he explains later), Kerr leads the students in the pledge of allegiance.

Things quickly calm down and the pledge is solemnly repeated. Some kids pledge using sign language; some little ones probably don't really understand the words. One new kindergarten student speaks only Mandarin Chinese and you wonder what he makes of it all.

Kerr explains later that nine different languages are spoken at the school. But the kids seem to take their pledge seriously and soon after, Kerr dismisses them class by class to their studies.

One class is held back because the teacher has reported that one of her students may have lice. Kerr dons rubber gloves and checks each student. One by one they step forward for inspection. Changing gloves between each student, Kerr inspects each scalp, peering closely while chatting with the kids and calling them by name. No lice are found and the students are sent on to their classroom.

A teacher reports that one second grader "has been kissing girls" and asks Kerr to have a talk with him. The boy at first denies he kissed the girls, but then admits it and is close to tears. "I don't know" he answers when Kerr asks him why he did it. "You need to not bother people — and when you kiss girls who don't want to be kissed — that's bothering them. And at school it's never okay to kiss," Kerr explains to the boy firmly. The boy promises not to do anymore schooltime kissing and he and Kerr shake hands at the end of their conversation.

Kerr then makes classroom rounds — checking in with teachers and greeting many students individually.

Some students are learning about

one boy is in a separate small room kicking the floor and carrying on. "We're having a temper tantrum right now," the teacher explains calmly.

Back in the office, Kerr reviews report cards and pulls out a big binder of budgets. Kerr said he "manages about 12 different budgets" and requisitions everything from "toilet paper and paper towels to sharks to be dissected" as part of an upcoming school-wide science project on the ocean and marine life.

A tall gangly boy comes in to ask Kerr to fix his torn pants pocket with a safety pin. Kerr makes a phone call to Pastime Hardware to price nylon rope that will be used to make jump-ropes for the kids. A parent who helps out at the school prices and describes basketball backstops to the principal — how to get them to the playground is a problem. "Mrs. Souza — does Audie have a truck?" Kerr calls out to the office manager.

It's obvious this principal can multi-task with the best of them. Kerr is in charge of 487 students in kindergarten through sixth grade, 25 teachers, eight sign-language aides, eight special education aides, three "one-on-one" aides, a secretary, a reading specialist, a half-time clerk and custodians. There are also half a dozen parent volunteers at the school on any given school day.

"In the old days," Kerr explained, principals tended to be "the scary guy who stayed in the office." Things are different nowadays and Kerr gets out and about. He knows the kids' names and they know him and aren't afraid to approach him with a complaint or a hug. While walking through the play yard last week, he greeted kids in English and Spanish and American sign language. When he returns from one of the lunchtime recesses, there are six pink "while you were out" message slips waiting for him in the office.

"I like coming to work," Kerr explains. He says 10 to 12 hour days are the norm for him.

At 2:10 in the afternoon he still hasn't had time to take the first bite of a



Harlan Kerr flips through the good and the bad news as he takes a final look at report cards.

"Why I was sent to the office" and "What could I have done differently?" A parent must sign the essay at the bottom and the student has to present it to Kerr at the start of the next school day.

"The hardest part of the job is you usually don't get to go to the bathroom until 5 o'clock," Kerr says, one hopes, in jest. One boy is sent to Kerr's office for allegedly chasing two girls into the bathroom. "No I didn't" the boy tells Kerr indignantly. "They hit me with wood chips so I chased them with water in my mouth," he explains and seems to have faith that the principal will see the righteousness of this defensive maneuver.

"On any given day 30 people approach me with a problem that needs to be solved," Kerr explains. "I need to solve them in ways that are positive for everyone." After a long and loud day with the principal of Harding School, one suspects that "30" is a lowball estimate.

Asked if he is paid enough for

what he does, Kerr said he has "no complaints about my salary" and that he loves his job. On being an educator, Kerr said "you go in with full-knowledge that this isn't a high-income profession." But he said "what you get back" more than

makes up for lack of high

At the end of Principal Kerr's day, one reporter was thankful for his temporary credentials and for his usual beat of local crime, mayhem, natural disasters and all the other easy stuff.



EVERY MORNING students gather in the auditorium for a pre-class assembly. On St. Patrick's Day Kerr reminds everyone that pinching is not OK, even if someone isn't wearing green.

potatoes "in honor of St. Patrick's Day" while others read from Karen Cushman's novel "The Ballad of Lucy Whipple." A worksheet assignment asks: "What metaphor did Lucy use to describe the July heat?" and "What did Lizzie Flagg want to trade for a slice of pie?" In a "transitional education program" classroom for kids with severe emotional and behavior problems,

corned beef lunch someone brought to his office. He just finished dealing with five older boys who had caused problems earlier in the day. Their homework now includes an essay on



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# Focus on the Albany American Legion Post 292

## Albany Chamber of Commerce

By Roxanne Wiley

You thought that Post 292 was a place for veterans to go on a Friday or Saturday night to eat a meal or maybe play bingo, you might be right of course, but that's not the only things they do. They sponsor both Boys' and Girls' State. This activity for students educates the young people about the duties, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship. Boys' State is held at the California State University campus in Sacramento and Girls' State is held at Pitzer College in Claremont. Boys and girls gather from all over the state for four days.

The former mock cities, counties and political parties to legislate what they develop themselves. Each city, county and state of which have an inauguration and permanent functions of government. It is time to go home the purpose has been attained after the days of "learn by doing".

Post also sponsors Girl, Boy Scouts. As well as the Youth Environmental Conference which gets students with all phases of Conservation and Environmental activities and gives career choices in these and allied fields.

Trux, Financial Officer, and Anne, who heads up the Post for 30 years. The current Commander is Charles Bachman. So, if you are a veteran and have not experienced our local Post 292, you should there's a lot going on.

### Coloring contest

Hurry and enter the contest! We will take entrants up to April 9. To enter the contest, the picture found in the March 1 Journal and bring it over to the Albany Chamber of Commerce, 1108 Solano Ave., Albany, 94710. Hint — The picture can be in the middle of the paper and appears to be a quite contented rabbit, sitting in the sun.

Prizes will be awarded in three age categories: Toddler through Age 3, 4-5 and Ages 6-10. Winners will be announced on April 12.

### Day at the Races

at time of year when Golden Fields opens the spring racing meet, it will be a great day, fun for little kids (under 12 free): pony rides, face painting, fashioned barbecue.

There will also be a huge raffle with prizes donated by the following:

The Albany YMCA is in the middle of their important fundraising drive. They need to raise \$40,000 to provide financial assistance for low-income youth and families. Inquire at the Y or at the Albany Chamber of Commerce.

The Albany Chamber of Commerce honored the winner of the Citizen of the Year award at a Golden Gate Fields mixer. This year was broken by presenting the award to two people, Mary and Bill Hartung. This dynamic duo has worked tirelessly for the Friends of the Library for over 30 years in some capacity or another. In appreciation of their endeavors, a plaque was given to them and a horse race will be named after them at the Albany Day at the Races. Bravo for Mary and Bill Hartung!

### Community reminders:

There will be a Buffet Brunch at Christopher's Cafe on Solano, 1501 A Solano, on April 11, from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., all proceeds to benefit the Albany Education Foundation. Tickets are \$28 per person, reserve now.

The Friends of Albany Seniors is holding a White Elephant Sale and will have hand constructed and baked goods. It will be held April 10, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Ave.

The Albany YMCA is in the middle of their important fundraising drive. They need to raise \$40,000 to provide financial assistance for low-income youth and families. Inquire at the Y or at the Albany Chamber of Commerce.

# A NEAT person to know before disaster strikes

Pat Cafel is a neat lady. And if you don't know that is a play on words you will soon. It is also true. She is a neat lady. She is bright, interesting and dedicated. And her great interest, her great dedication these days is to the NEAT program in El Cerrito and in Kensington.

I have mentioned the NEAT program in other stories, such as the one about El Cerrito Police Chief Linda Fellers.

But from Pat Cafel I have learned much more about it. And, under her direction, it is a vital, living program that could save the area a great deal of grief in a catastrophe. In fact Lori Dair, who emailed me a long letter about Pat Cafel says, "The best thing you could do to prepare for an earthquake would be to move in Pat Cafel's neighborhood. It would sure make me feel a whole lot more secure. But since we can't all do that, the next best thing is to encourage people to take the NEAT training, and then cajole all their neighbors into doing likewise."

So meet Pat Cafel. She was born in New York but lived all of her life in California. In Los Altos, to be exact, where she attended the local schools, finishing her education at UC Berkeley, which is where she met husband, Brad. She later returned to school to get nurse's training. She works with the Red Cross, and is a certified emergency preparedness trainer.

Several years ago she became interested in community activities, which led to her interest in preparedness.

"I am very dedicated to making my community a safer and more prepared place in which to live," she says. And to that end she started participating in NEAT, and has become not only its director, but also the writer of its training manual, the actual trainer of people, and all the peripheral activities that keep a program going, such as the publicity and the daily activities. She works closely with the police department, the fire department and other community groups on issues of public safety. She is also involved with neighboring cities preparedness groups, including those in Albany, Richmond and San Pablo.

Pat told me about her training, but I must quote Lori Dair again: "Pat has put together a wonderful training manual for the NEAT courses, and she teaches the courses. I just took the course, and can't say enough good about it. What an amazing resource she is for us all! There were lectures and slides, lots and lots of demonstrations and materials brought to class for us to look at, culminating in a hands-on practice day, where we actually practice going into damaged buildings, learn to triage on (mock) injured people, learn how to put out small fires, and so forth."

Pat, herself, says, "The wonderful thing about NEAT is that it really gets to the core of the community. It's what the community is all about."

Part of the program is getting to know neighbors, and to that end she has been involved in the police department sponsored National Night Out, which promotes neighborhood get-togethers. Knowing your neighbors helps in time of emergency. You know their needs, their skills that can be put to use, and simply how to help each other. It is beautiful, Pat says, to see the friendships and trust in a neighborhood, and by extension in a community, when people get together in a friendly setting, share ideas, do some planning and have fun. And she adds, members always have fun at the meetings. It is absolutely essential. And kids are invited and welcome.

NEAT participates in national Nights Out, and in functions with Neighborhood Watch. They have a table at the Solano Stroll, the July 4 fete and other community activities.

The new buzz word today is "Resilience," she tells us. It's about how to be a resilient person, that we have the ability to bounce back, to cope when faced by adversity. And you extend that to our neighborhoods and communities where preparedness and planning help the entire community survive while preventing many problems from happening.

## Community Folk

By Clara R. Genser

terial she hands out at training sessions, and it is amazingly comprehensive. It includes First Aid and CPR classes (she recently took part in a one-day CPR training exercise, where she and 12 others trained 500 people), a household hazardous waste drop off, a smoke detector program, school district disaster preparedness collaborative and even a session on the Y2K problem. They not only plan shelters, but they plan for pets, and have pet shelters in the neighborhoods.

One has to look through the many handouts she gave me to realize how comprehensive the program is. It is amazing, and wonderful.

As noted, both Pat Cafel and husband Brad, an attorney, are very much into community activities. Since meeting Pat I have noticed several letters to the editor by Brad, having to do with El Cerrito. They both belong to Sustainable El Cerrito and are Earth Day volunteers. It seems they take the words neighbor and community very seriously.

I appreciate Lori Dair contacting me about Pat Cafel, and I certainly enjoyed meeting Pat. Please write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 525-4585. My email is crgenser@aol.com.

**Children's Easter Egg Hunt**  
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# Easter Coloring Contest

**Contest Rules**

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<b>4-5 yrs.</b>	First Place: \$25 Plaza Money Second Place: \$15 Plaza Money Third Place: \$10 Plaza Money
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The winners will receive Plaza Money to spend in any El Cerrito Plaza store. Plaza merchants, Plaza employees & their immediate families are not eligible to enter. Entries must be submitted by 5pm, Wednesday March 31, 1999. Judging will take place on Thursday, April 1, 1999. Winners will be contacted. Entries can be turned in to any store or to the Plaza Management Office, 518 El Cerrito Plaza.

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# A gem from north of the border

No (April) Fooling Around: "The Newsroom" is back on KQED-TV. No, not "Newsroom," that still-fondly-remembered live newscast from 1967 that Channel 9 produced that featured Belva Davis, Rollin Post, and Mel Wax, among others. KQED's "Newsroom" sprung up during a big SF newspaper strike.

No, this is "THE Newsroom."

This one's Canadian, and it's a lot funnier than "Newsroom."

And "Larry Sanders" fans, please take note. Like British comedian John Cleese's classic "Fawlty Towers," of which only a dozen episodes were ever produced (each to be savored), "The Newsroom" is also a limited-run series. Series creator/writer/star Ken Finkelman produced only 13 shows of this remarkably well-written newsroom workplace comedy that ran on the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) in 1996-97. Each show is a gem. "The Newsroom" is the most widely acclaimed series in Canadian TV history.

"The Newsroom" trades in biting satire and is an acerbic, few-holds-barred look at a crass Canadian TV news exec. Imagine ABC's "Sports Night" or NBC's "Dateline" with far more realistic, less-censored dialogue. (Ironic, considering the show's origins on mild-mannered Canadian TV.) "The Newsroom" is the best of the three. No contest.

Channel 9 began running syndicated episodes of "The Newsroom" last fall, airing them at the almost-impossible-to-remember time of 1 a.m. Tuesdays. (I mentioned this in a column last November). Those of us who'd heard about "The Newsroom" and who could also program — or remember to program our VCRs got a glimpse at this intelligent, well-written series. Channel 9 pulled the show in December, but starting tonight, KQED will begin airing multiple (three and four) episodes of "The Newsroom" each of the next four Fridays at 9. Be sure to watch (or tape) them; you'll quickly be up to speed with one of television's better offerings of this decade.

Finkelman, who reminds me a bit of John Larroquette, stars as a thoroughly unlikeable and unprincipled TV news director (there are a few of these around). His alpha-male character, George Findlay, is a shallow, insecure sexist, a womanizer whose idea of a management dilemma is whether to fire the assistant who might sleep with him - or the assistant who keeps his pesky mother at

home. Findlay is obsessed with luxury cars and latte; he's the embodiment of what some might call "yuppie scum." It would be easy to overplay his hand here, but fortunately, Finkelman doesn't, rendering Findlay as believably loathsome. Forget about "Buffalo Bill"; this series is far better.

The quality of writing, casting, and performing on "The Newsroom" is on the same level as that other superb TV parody, "Larry Sanders." A big part of covering TV is panning for gold, so to speak — trying to identify that 1 to 2 percent of TV that's noteworthy. We've struck gold with "The Newsroom."

More Newsroom Matters: Even though I'm not a big Clint Eastwood fan, I couldn't resist checking out his new flick "True Crime," in which Ol' Squinty Eyes plays a police reporter at my old newspaper, The OakTrib. I'm not sure if what we're seeing in this movie is the old Trib or the new, ANG/Pleasanton version. Probably both — or neither. Yes, that's the Tribune tower in the movie, all right, but that Oakland landmark has been shuttered for six years, a sad, largely neglected shell. (Work is now going on inside for a return of the now mostly suburban paper, I am told).

But the newsroom shown in and built for the film looks more like the Trib's newer, if more depressing, facility in Jack London Square.

OK, but what's the deal on James Woods' character? He plays the Trib's editor, a mouthy guy named... Mann! (Alan Mann, but, hey, close enough). Coincidence? And do these eerie similarities render this actionable? I placed a call to my attorney, Cohen the Barbarian. (Just kidding about the mouthpiece. Like Kevorkian, I represent myself and have a fool for a client.) If you didn't or don't work for the Trib, there is really no compelling reason for you to pay to watch this pedestrian, formulaic film. Sure, it's nice to see some exterior shots of too-often-overlooked Oakland, but it would have been more satisfying to see them in a better film.

Still, it was decent of Clint to pay homage to the once-pride East Bay daily for which he delivered papers as a lad. And it's cool to watch KTVU morning and midday news anchor Frank Somerville sitting on a news

set (a nighttime/skyline job) we've never seen here.

Other local media types in "True Crime": I spotted Eastwood's wife, TV anchor Dina Ruiz, in a couple of scenes holding a Channel 2 microphone. She's on maternity leave from KSBW-TV in Salinas-Monterey, where she anchors for the smallish NBC affiliate. And I'm pretty sure I heard KGO Radio afternoon anchor Ed Baxter's dulcet tones coming out of the Clintmobile's radio a couple of times. One KGO Radio tonsil I did recognize: Right-wing host Dr. Bill "The Lil Professor" Wattenberg's sonorous tones describing the San Quentin execution procedure in one newscast that "reporter" Eastwood listened to as he raced against the clock to save a condemned man's life. Clint won that race, of course.

**MULTIMEDIA NOTES:** More newspaper stuff: The NY Post, of course, has just about the best tabloid headlines around. The Post's head last week when Kevorkian was convicted of murder: "Dr. Death Gets Life." And David Letterman notes that when Dr. K's campaign manager got the Democratic nomination for governor of Michigan last fall, his campaign slogan was "Give Me Liberty...AND Give Me Death!"...A KGO Radio listener called Ronn Owens' show last week to complain to the powerful talk station's new program director, the likeable Ken Barry, about the placement of KGO's traffic reports. It's also a pet peeve of mine. KCBS was using "Traffic on the 8's" (8:08, 8:18, 8:28, etc.) for at least two years before you started doing it," said the angry caller, "and now I have to choose between one of the two stations and can't listen to both." Good point: Would it have killed KGO to schedule its Jet Copter reports on The Seven or The Nines? ...Word of mouth in the East Bay and my e-mail has been almost all positive about ABC's hot new Wednesday L.A.-spoofing comedy, "It's Like, You Know." I knew it would be, and this week's show about the paralytic brought on by live TV coverage in L.A. of a freeway chase was funny stuff...Finally, the airwaves have been inundated lately by TV ads extolling the alleged alertness and enhanced-thinking virtues of food additives that contain Gingko Biloba. Hmm... Doesn't Gingko Biloba sound like the name of an old boxer from the 50s? He was a flyweight, I believe, out of Panama. A helluva fighter, that Gingko. Great left hook.

Greenspan picked up the check. And he's a big tipper - an inflationary 22 percent.

And in case you're curious, yes, the Fed Head has his own Secret Service protection. Several agents ate

# Turn out the lights, the party's over

## Snappshots

By Martin Snapp

lunch at Ginger Island earlier in the day (presumably to case the joint).

And at the birthday dinner itself, they refused to let him enter or leave the place unescorted. They ushered him inside, sat him down, and then waited right outside until dinner was over. Then they came back in and ushered him out the door and into his car.

And speaking of supermarkets, I was at the meat counter at Andronico's on Shattuck last week when one of the counter clerks, Farouk Edun, asked me, "Are you going to write something nice about John Andronico?" (Andronico, the patriarch of the hugely successful family supermarket chain, died March 17 at the age of 76.)

"I don't know, Farouk," I replied. "What should I say?"

"Write that he treated every customer like a personal friend," he said. "I remember how he used to make sure everything on every aisle was arranged just so before the store opened in the morning. When I asked him why, he said, 'You'd want to fluff up the pillows on the couch in your living room before you had a guest over, wouldn't you?'"

At that point, another counter clerk, Ross Abbott, interjected, "And he treated all his employees like family, too. On my first day on the job he made a point of asking me my name, and every time he saw me after that he'd always greet me by name and ask how my wife and kids were doing."

Andronico has received many tributes since his passing. Most have mentioned what an innovator he was in the supermarket business. (For instance, you know those shelf sprays that deliver a continuous mist to keep the produce fresh? That's one of his inventions.)

But these two unsolicited testi-

monials from people who worked for him speak volumes about the kind

of human being he was. The man who did well by doing good.

Finally, now that we're in the Balkans, are the Serbs or the Croats?

It not only depends on where you are; it also depends on when you are.

For instance, take the Public Library book sale. In the final 1919 edition of "A Century of The World," by Vilh. (Set me back a whopping \$10.)

The reason I bought it was because I grew up with a later version of the same book, the 1951 edition of the book that first turned me on to reading.

Now, as we all remember, our high school history class War I was triggered when the nationalists assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria. Out of that, I compared how the two of my little book treated the event.

The 1919 edition: "Let us be a good neighbor. She formed societies to send people into the Balkans to stir up trouble. One of them was an Austrian prince, the prime minister was to be the next king of Austria. Naturally, Austria was furious."

Why the big difference? In 1919, when the first version was written, the Serbs had just joined the Allies. By 1951, Serbia was part of Communist Yugoslavia.

George Orwell would have understood perfectly.

Phone Martin Snapp at (510) 9079 or e-mail him at [msnapp@sf.com](mailto:msnapp@sf.com).

# Renowned bassist in benefit for Crowdene School

Gary Karr, acknowledged by Time magazine as "the world's leading solo bassist" and long-time collaborator Harmon Lewis, return to the Bay Area for a one-time benefit performance for The Crowdene School and Community Music Center in Berkeley.

Joining Karr in the performance of the Rossiini Grande Duo will be acclaimed cellist, Emil Miland.

The event will be held at Saint Mark's Episcopal Church, 2300 Bancroft Way in Berkeley on April 18 at 4 p.m.

Karr born in Los Angeles of Russian ancestry, is the seventh generation double bassist in his family, dating back two centuries.

He began playing the instrument when he was nine and appeared in public for the first time at Carnegie Hall at the age of 20, at the invitation of the late Leonard Bernstein.

It was following that performance of the Koussevitzky concerto, that Koussevitzky's widow called Karr and told him that she saw the ghost of her late husband caressing him. She arranged a meeting.

There, expressing her hope that Karr would carry on her musical legacy, she gave Karr her last 1611 Amati.

It will be with Koussevitzky that Karr will perform on April 18.

Tickets are \$18 for general admission and \$9 for students and seniors, available by phone 510-845-2211 or at the door.

For further information, contact Linda Deakot 524-0289.

# Commute and observe Earth Day

RIDES for Bay Area commuters is helping commuters make the world a little greener by encouraging them to use a commute alternative at least once before Earth Day, April 22.

Those who carpool, vanpool, take transit, bike, walk or telecommute will be eligible to win \$1,000 or other prizes.

RIDES' Earth Day Promotion, "Make Your World a Little Greener," urges Bay Area commuters to try alternatives to driving alone and save money and time while they help the environment.

Annually, commuters who share the ride, bicycle, walk or telecommute help keep approximately 16.3 million pounds of pollutants out of the Bay area's air. Using an alternative to solo driving can save a commuter up to \$3,000 a year.

The grand prize is \$1,000. Other prizes include a romantic Napa Valley getaway package from Stahlecker House Bed & Breakfast, River City Restaurant and Executive Limousine; and store and merchandise gift certificates.

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Commuters desiring a "green" commute can get free commute assistance by contacting RIDES at 800-755-POOL or [www.rides.org](http://www.rides.org).

In addition to carpool and vanpool services, RIDES provides free information on riding public transit, bicycling, telecommuting and walking to work; commuters can receive referrals to bus, rail or ferry services and obtain locations of Park & Ride lots and diamond lanes throughout the Bay area by contacting RIDES.

RIDES' Web site is a virtual one-stop shop for "green" commuting. In addition to the site's information on commute alternatives, new features for Earth Day have been added, including:

■ "Commuter Tales" — commuters who share their "green" commute stories can win \$200.

■ Environmental Calculator — commuters can find out how much their drive-alone commute impacts the environment.

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One Winner per household. Winners chosen at random from all qualified entries on April 7th. Winners will be notified by phone April 9th. Employees and immediate families of Contra Costa Newspapers and the Oakland A's and their subsidiaries of each, are not eligible to enter to win. For a complete set of contest rules call (925) 943-8202.

## One Stop Card Shop

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## Bunders

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I am able to drive to work she said contentiously. "And this thing is how many people here agree."

Some people have bought into us that we cannot build more than 200 units," Saunders said that Al Gore and other politicians, in order to appear to the masses and provide the appearance of doing something, have gone with the idea of the national lottery. She called this plan "a welfare," saying "if you have a cell phone you can't use the question of high-occupancy

vehicle diamond lanes on the freeway, Saunders said "if they show they work — I'm for them."

She also contended, however, that diamond lanes may be intended "to punish people and make them get out of their cars." Saunders said a lot of people have to drive to work alone and "don't have choices." Stating that traffic will be a big issue in future elections, she described the 211 traffic hotline as a "pabulum thing" promoted by politicians to show people they care and are taking action. "They want to look like they're doing something," she contended.

Saunders also talked about public transportation and BART with local Republicans.

Saunders said she sometimes

takes BART and is less than impressed. "I have never seen a less user-friendly transit system in my life," she said bluntly. She said people want to drive to BART and park their cars before getting on the trains and don't have time to take a bus to the station. Saunders said BART officials want people to take the bus to BART to reduce the need for parking at the stations. "You're not supposed to drive to BART," she said. "They think that people are supposed to spend their time taking the bus to BART and they're not going to be satisfied until that's what everyone does," Saunders contended. "And guess what? People won't do it." She also decried such things as the lack of ticket machines and nonfunction-

ing escalators and elevators at BART stations.

"You know what it is — they think that we should take public transportation, it's our civic duty, and it doesn't even have to be good," Saunders said. "That's what irritates me the most about it — they think that we owe it to the world to do it, but they don't even have to make it comfortable for us."

It was clear the local Republicans appreciated Saunders and her remarks and applauded heartily at speech's end. She was obviously preaching to the choir. After her talk, the daring columnist salled forth into the Bay Area night to once again join battle with wrong-headed liberals hither and yon.

flier

PAGE A1

Linda Lester said the district only do much would agree that our teachers are repaid. All our employees are," said. "But the district only has money."

A similar impasse took place in the district's teachers have gone on strike. Talks have been since September. Union leadership's offer only appears on the surface.

The latest offer, half of the 4 percent is nonretroactive for this year; if the contract were today, teachers would receive

an actual increase of .5 percent this year. One quarter of the increase would be effective only if the union switches health plans, a move that would save the district money, which it would apply to salaries. The remainder of the 4 percent raise would come as a one-time bonus.

The union wants the district to dig deeper. "A bonus doesn't count toward retirement," Dragos said. "We want it on the salary schedule so it's ongoing and not a one-time thing."

West County teachers received a raise of about 6 percent in April, but still draw salaries lower than the average for teachers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. The union declines to say how much it seeks, other than wages comparable with Bay Area public school averages.

The union said West Contra Costa is about 8 percent below the average salary for first-year teachers in the Bay Area and about 13 percent below average for teachers with 10 years or more.

West Contra Costa teachers earn an average of \$28,000 in their first year, \$40,000 after 10 or more years.

By comparison, the 35,000-student Mt. Diablo Unified in Concord, with a similar enrollment to West Contra Costa, pays its first-year teachers about \$29,000 and \$42,000 to veterans with 10 years or more. In the 9,500-student Berkeley Unified district, first-year staffers also earn about \$29,000, but jump to about \$44,000 after 10 years. And the 30,000-student San Jose Unified pays first-year teachers about \$29,000 and \$48,000 after 10 years.

coaches."

As Luoma told the story, Jack Rosano approached, having heard his name in the air. Luoma turned to Rosano and bent over laughing. He had told the story just loud enough for it to carry.

"That's true," Rosano said as he cocked his head and planted his feet in the dirt. "I didn't have much to offer. But he liked the looks of my kid."

Rosano himself went on to coach for 30 years. He was also recognized Saturday for his contributions. Though they had slightly different opinions on baseball games played in years past, not to mention which were the best teams, best players, best coaches, both Luoma and Rosano agreed on one thing — the uniforms they wore as coaches were the best in the league.

Soon both men went to opposite fields to throw out the first pitch of the game. Luoma was at south field where the Athletics played the Giants in a game more enjoyable than the professional Bay Bridge matchup. Across the field and two fences the Dodgers faced the Cubs in another game.

The fans in the stands and the players on the field watched as Luoma and Rosano wound up and tossed out the first pitch. As a young batter knocked the dirt off his cleats and parents watched with anticipation, the umpire raised his arm and yelled, "Play ball!"

Luoma had already been around the league some time before he stole home. His first start in baseball was back in 1956, when he came to watch his son play.

"I was watching the umpire and I heard it blew a couple of calls, and said so," Luoma recalled. "They said 'can you do a better job?' and I said, 'Heck yeah!' Next thing I know I'm the umpiring chief."

Luoma recalled how he became a manager for the first time in 1966. The next year during his first draft he said, "I looked at all the kids out there and said, 'Boy, I want that kid — I want Kenny Rosano.' Then the league told me, 'I got some news for you. The kid comes along with his father.' I said, 'I don't want a father, I've got my own

would allow people to park cars there.

Marsha Skinner said she had approached El Cerrito Plaza about just such a possibility but was rebuffed. Hudson said there would be 56 additional parking spots at the middle school once it is completed.

Another potentially controversial issue discussed was that of night lighting for the fields. Residents living nearby vigorously opposed the use of any type of playing-field lights. Singer said night lights are always the most contentious issue when localities debate the development of playing fields.

"When you light up a field, it lights up the entire area," he said.

Though the district is not considering installing lights in the near future, one of four proposed master plans may include the option of doing so at some future point.

Neighbors living near Cougar Field also raised concerns about noise and stray baseballs flying into their yards, as well as fencing around the field and access issues. Singer said he has noted their concerns and assured people such matters will be taken into consideration by his firm as they draw up four proposals for the master plan.

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## ALBANY PTA COUNCIL NEWS

By Kay Weinstein

**Albany PTA Council**April 26, Regular Meeting,  
7:30 p.m., AMS Library**Albany High School**

SCRIP Orders: Support AHS by buying Safeway, Andronico's or Lucky certificates. Call Linda Okamoto at 525-6782 or Bellinda Lum at 528-2429.

**Site Council News:**

Parent surveys have been compiled into a report, which will be presented at May PTA meeting. Copies of the survey report available now in AHS office and library. Applications now available in AHS office for

funding proposals for next school year. Applications are due April 13. There is nearly \$80,000 available. Teachers, students and parents may apply for Site Council funding. Questions? Call Joan Larson at 526-7769.

■ April 1, Instructional Improvement Committee Meeting, 7 p.m., AHS Room 53

■ April 12, PTA Meeting, 7:15 p.m., AHS Library Topic: WASC, IIC, and School Vision

■ April 15, Principal's Roundtable, 5 p.m., AHS Room 53

**Albany Middle School**

■ SCRIP Orders: Support AMS by buying Safeway certifi-

cates. Call Karen Moss at 526-2018 or Janet Nichols at 526-6259.

■ April 1, AMS Pops Concert, 7 p.m., AMS Gym

■ April 12, Staff Development, NO SCHOOL

■ April 15, "It's Elementary" Film Preview, 7 p.m., AMS Library. Topic: Gay and Lesbian Issues in Schools

**Cornell Elementary School**

April 14, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

**Vista-MacGregor Primary School**

SCRIP Sales: Wednesday mornings before school, or call

Meiling Lincoff at 524-5129.

**Parcel Tax Committee**

April 7, Regular Meeting, 7:30 p.m., 1604 Solano Ave., Albany (Law Office of Robert Cheasty)

VOTE YES on Measure A on June 8! Save Albany's Strong Schools!

**Albany Education Foundation**

April 11, Buffet Brunch at Christopher's Cafe, 10:30-1:30. Tickets are \$28 to benefit AEF. Tickets can be purchased at Christopher's Cafe, 1501-A Solano or by calling AEF at 524-7797.

**July 4 Celebration at****Memorial Park**

Fundraising booths available to local groups. Contact Jon Ely at City Hall.

**AUSD Board of Education**

April 13, 6-7:30 p.m., Full Joint Meeting of the City Council and Albany Unified School District, Cornell School Multi-Purpose Room.

7:30 p.m., Regular Board Meeting

**AUSD District Holidays**

April 5-9, Spring Break NO SCHOOL

Items? Call Kay Weinstein at 525-0363 or email: kayweinstein@yahoo.com

**Albany special break**  
 The Albany Pool Ave., will have a new schedule during spring 5 to 9. Last swim will be on Friday, noon to 12:30; and 8:30 to 9:25 p.m.; 7:55 a.m. Weekend as usual: Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 to 1:25 p.m.; Sunday hours are 4:30 to 6:25 p.m. swim will be held from 4 p.m. and Friday 7:30 p.m. Details: 559-6840

# ALBANY CELEBRATES

## ANNUAL SPRING COLORING CONTEST!

See your artwork displayed in the windows of the Albany Chamber of Commerce

**Spring into Shape at the Albany YMCA****FULL SERVICE FITNESS CENTER****ADULT & YOUTH CLASSES INCLUDE**

- Aerobics • Yoga • Body Sculpting
- Judo • Karate • Art for Kids
- Ballroom & Folk Dancing
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921 Kains Ave., Albany  
(510) 525-1130

The YMCA. We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.

**Solano Cleaning Center**

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- Bulk Dry Cleaning
- 30 & 50 lb. Washers & Dryers

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510-524-0254 OPEN 24 HOURS**Patti & Steve's Auto Care****"Auto Repair From People Who Care"**

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Saturday 9am - 3:00pm

1057 Eastshore, Albany

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- and more!

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660 San Pablo Ave., Albany

"We can perform all factory recommended services &amp; maintenance"

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EARLY BIRD AND BART SHUTTLE SERVICES AVAILABLE

## SPRING CLEANING! 25% OFF

Cleaning on Quilts, Blankets & Pillows  
THRU APRIL 30, 1999

NORGE CLEANERS

**Spring Cleaning?**  
Bring in your high quality spring clothing and accessories for top consignment dollars!!!

SOLANO AVENUE CLOTHING STORE  
1419 Solano Avenue, Albany  
510-525-9520  
M-Sat. 10:30-6, Sun. 12-5  
Consignments accepted Tues.-Sat. 11-3

**Bears & Baubles**  
1603 Solano Avenue  
Berkeley  
(510) 524-4794

Ask About Our Teddy Classes!

**Easter Sale  
going on now!!!**

**NOW FEATURING...**  
Live Music  
and  
gently-read books for sale!

THURSDAY, APRIL 8  
Traditional Old-Time Music Jam Session  
"Bring your instruments" 7 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 2  
Dan Lange - Steel  
Guitar, Blues &  
Vocals 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY,  
APRIL 14  
East Bay  
Improv Theatre  
7:30 p.m.

1309 Solano Ave.  
Albany • 527-4475

SUN 12-9 M-Th 10-11  
Fri-Sat. 10pm - 1 am

MCMANUS'  
CAFE & PUB

**COLORING**  
To enter contest, call  
the Albany Chamber of  
Commerce at 525-0363  
Prizes will be awarded  
Toddler division: Winter  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

## WEST COUNTY SCHOOL WATCH

## District invites input on new middle school

by Glen Price

September 2001.

The Richmond Middle School is being built with Measure E bond funds, the bond measure approved by West County voters in June 1998.

The plan review meeting will be held Tuesday, April 6 at 7 p.m. at Kennedy High School, 4300 Cutting Blvd in Richmond. For more information call 620-2019.

State Allocation Board Unanimously Approves Full Funding for Hercules Middle/High School In action on Wednesday, March 24 California's State Allocation Board (SAB) unanimously approved full construction

funding for the long-awaited Hercules Middle/High School. The SAB approved \$27 million for school construction and separately \$2.6 million for road and infrastructure work.

The approved and funded plans include funding for the core teaching and administrative buildings, play fields, security systems, irrigation, and shop/vocational technology building.

Many thanks to Assemblyman Tom Torlakson and his staff, Assemblywoman Dion Aroner, West County Mayors, Superintendent Gloria Johnston and district staff, OPSC staff, and all of the parents and community

members who worked so hard to make this happen!

## AC Transit board approves transit pilot project

Following up months of work by a broad-based student transportation committee, the AC Transit Board approved their portion of a proposed partnership with the WCCUSD to implement a pilot project to improve attendance by middle school students through provision of bus tickets. The committee, which includes representation from the Contra Costa Interfaith Sponsoring Committee (CCISCO), AC

Transit, and the District has been exploring ways to improve student attendance in the upcoming months and years prior to the construction of the new Richmond Middle School.

Want to receive West County School Watch and other action alerts on local school issues delivered to your email address? Send the message "Subscribe" to pakglen@aol.com. Glen Price is a member of the WCCUSD school board; the opinions and views expressed in West County School Watch are his own and do not reflect official views or positions of the school board or WCCUSD unless otherwise noted. Back issues of West County School Watch and other sundry items can be found on the West County School Watch web site: <http://www.igc.org/westcounty/>

## OBITUARY

## Guy Laverty Sr.

Longtime Albany resident Guy Laverty Sr. died at age 95 at Cameron Park on Dec. 6, 1998. Mr. Laverty was born on October 25, 1903 in Ord, Neb., and resided in Albany for 48 years. He graduated from the University of Denver in 1923. He attended St. Albans Church in Albany, and was affiliated with the Boy Scouts, Albany Little League of America, Seniors In Retirement (SIRS) and was in the Albany Bowling League.

Survivors include his sister, Mrs. Joann D. Beeton, Oakland; daughter, Babette Robinson, Sebastopol; sons Guy Laverty Jr., Pleasanton and Noel Laverty, Cameron Park. He has eight grandchildren, Chris, Noel, Cambra, Andrew, Diane, Canon, Jessie, and Jade. Memorials gifts can be made to the American Cancer Society.

## SPRING!

BANY PRESENT THE



## ENTRY FORM

Please and bring or send your entry to  
Albany Ave., Albany, CA 94706

Age categories:  
Ages 6-10.  
April 12, '99.



Age \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

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524-12701401 University Ave.  
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Open 7 Days a Week  
Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

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LOCATION

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Hurray for our breakfast menu!

**Monteros**  
Cocina Mexican

Practice your Spanish while you're  
"surfing" a fine Mexican menu!

**EXQUISITE  
& AUTHENTIC  
MEXICAN CUISINE**

Transit, and the District has been exploring ways to improve student attendance in the upcoming months and years prior to the construction of the new Richmond Middle School.

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(510) 526-4961

or (510) 526-2265

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MON - FRI 8:30 - 6:00  
987 SAN PABLO AVENUE, ALBANY

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**FREE**  
Bowling  
Lessons  
for Ages  
6 to 12 years  
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**ALBANY BOWL**

YOUR CHILD BOWLS ALL 3 WEEKS

3 Wednesdays - 3 Sessions

April 21, 28 &amp; May 5 • 3:45pm-5pm

• Personalized On-Lane Instruction

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540 San Pablo Ave.

510-526-8818

SIGN-UP NOW!!!

# Holy Week Services



**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
Thursday, April 1 • 7:30 p.m.  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

**TENEbrae**  
Friday, April 2 • 7:30 p.m.

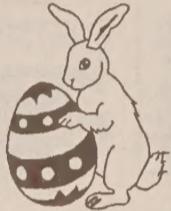
**EASTER SUNDAY**  
6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service  
Continental Breakfast  
7:15 to 11:15 a.m.

**Traditional Services**  
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Choir, Organ, Brass, Handbells  
**Contemporary Worship**  
5:45 p.m.

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BERKELEY

Dana & Channing • 845-6242

*Looking for  
Easter  
in all the  
wrong places?*



Celebrate with us this Easter Sunday and discover the real reason for our celebrations. Come meet the real and living Jesus who wants a loving relationship with you.

Join us on:  
**Sunday, April 4, at 10:30am**  
(or any Sunday)

Park Boulevard Presbyterian Church  
4101 Park Boulevard, Oakland, CA 94602

For information call 510-530-5311  
On the web at: [www.pbpc.org](http://www.pbpc.org)  
or email us at: [office@pbpc.org](mailto:office@pbpc.org)

## St. John's Episcopal Holy Week and Easter

Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.  
I have put my spirit upon him;  
He will bring forth justice to the nations.

Isaiah 42, 1

**Worship with us as we celebrate  
the Resurrection of Jesus Christ**

### March 28 - Palm Sunday

8:00 a.m. Eucharist  
9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens  
9:45 a.m. Procession of Palms & Eucharist

### March 31 - Wednesday in Holy Week

6:30 a.m. Eucharist  
7:30 p.m. Tenebrae—Service of Darkness

### April 1 - Maundy Thursday

6:30 p.m. Supper  
7:30 p.m. Eucharist, Foot Washing, Stripping of Altar

### April 2 - Good Friday

7:30 p.m. Procession of the Cross, Prayer Vigil

### April 3 - Easter Vigil

7:30 p.m. The Great Vigil of Easter

### April 4 - Easter Day

8:00 a.m. Eucharist

9:00 a.m. Nursery Opens

10:00 a.m. Children's Celebration

10:00 a.m. Eucharist

Childcare for infants and toddlers may be available for some evening services. Check with the office.

**St. John's Episcopal Church**  
1707 Gouldin Road (off Thornhill), Oakland, CA 94611  
339-2200

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**  
Thursday, April 1 • 7:30 p.m.  
Celebration of the Lord's Supper

**TENEbrae**  
Friday, April 2 • 7:30 p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY**  
6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service  
Continental Breakfast  
7:15 to 11:15 a.m.

**Traditional Services**  
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00 a.m.  
Choir, Organ, Brass, Handbells  
**Contemporary Worship**  
5:45 p.m.

**College Avenue  
Presbyterian Church**  
5951 College Avenue  
Oakland

Regular Schedule  
9:15 am Sunday School, All ages  
10:15 am "Centering Prayer"  
10:30 am Worship  
Every Friday at 8:45 pm: Community Meal, Worship & Song, Gospel Musicians, Electives  
658-3665 or 547-3033

### HOLY WEEK OFFERINGS

Sunday, March 28

10:30 a.m. PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP following procession of Palms & Choir

Thursday, April 1

7:30 p.m. Candlelight MAUNDY THURSDAY Service with 'Four-Given' Quartet

Friday, April 2

5:45 p.m. Community Meal  
7:30 p.m. Candlelight GOOD FRIDAY Service with "Raising of the Cross" Outside

EASTER SUNDAY, April 4

10:15 a.m. Band-led Processional leaves BART.

10:30 a.m. Worship with Choir & Brass

\*Note daytime savings one hour ahead.



**F**or God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but may have life everlasting."

— John 3:16

**Join us for Easter at Northbrae**

SERVICES AT 9:30 AND 11:00 A.M.

Easter Egg Hunt on the front lawn at 10:35 a.m., prizes!  
Special guest appearance by the Easter Bunny

**NORTHBRAE COMMUNITY CHURCH**

A non-denominational church, that welcomes people from diverse religious heritages.

941 The Alameda ■ Berkeley ■ 526-3805  
BETWEEN MARIN & SOLANO

*A Soft Celebration*

Sponsored by the Philosophy Department  
C.S.U.H.

"The Breath of Dawn"

Come experience...

an ancient wisdom, insightful poetry,

enchanting music, and a delicious Persian buffet.

**Saturday, April 10 - 7:30 pm**

Main Theater CSU Hayward

\$12 general admission \$6 students

For reservations and more info, please call

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**ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
114 MONTECITO AVE., GRAND NEAR HARRISON, OAKLAND

The Rev. Dr. John H. Eastwood

**Good Friday - April 2**

12 noon to 3 p.m. - The Traditional Liturgy of the Passion

**Easter Day - April 4**

8 a.m. - Blessing of the New Fire and First Eucharist of Easter with Gregorian Chants

10 a.m. Festival Holy Eucharist

Full Choir and Organ; Sunday School and Childcare

**Good Shepherd Episcopal Church**

invites you to join us for  
**Holy Week & Easter**



April 1st — Maundy Thursday Service at 7pm

April 2nd — Good Friday Liturgy at 12 noon

April 4th — Easter Choral Eucharist at 10am

1823 Ninth Street (at Hearst) Berkeley, CA  
**(510) 549-1433**

Come, join us to celebrate  
the greatest event in world history!

**The Church of St. Leo the Great**

Piedmont Avenue at Ridgeway

**GOOD FRIDAY - April 2**

12-3 pm Prayer  
1:00 pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
7:30 pm Stations of the Cross

**HOLY SATURDAY - April 3**

7:00 pm Mass of the Vigil of Easter

**EASTER SUNDAY - April 4**

8:30 am Mass of the Resurrection

11:00 am Mass of the Resurrection with choir

**REGULAR SCHEDULE OF WORSHIP**

**Sunday:** 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.; **Weekdays:** 12:10 p.m. Monday to Friday

**Saturdays:** 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Vigil

By bounds and tradition serving  
the greater Piedmont area and Piedmont Avenue

**3 EASTER CELEBRATIONS**  
**FIRST COVENANT CHURCH, OAKLAND**

**Sunday, April 4, 1999**

**7:30**

**9:00**

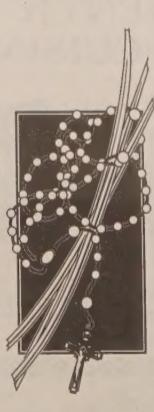
**10:45**

♦ Glorious music of the season at all three morning worship services  
♦ Video feature & gifts for children

Complimentary Easter Brunch: 8:30 - 10:30 am

Spanish-speaking celebration at 1 pm

Your neighborhood church on the hill next to Lincoln Square Shopping Center  
**FIRST COVENANT CHURCH**  
4000 Redwood Road, Oakland CA 94619 ♦ (510) 531-5244



**Come Celebrate New Life With Us!**

Worship \_\_\_\_\_ 10:00 a.m.  
 Fellowship \_\_\_\_\_ 11:15 a.m.  
 Easter Egg Hunt \_\_\_\_\_ 11:30 a.m.  
*Bring the kids!*

**Albany United Methodist Church**  
 Corner of Marin & Stannage • Albany  
 (510) 526-7346

**an amazing Easter celebration!**

us Easter Sunday, April 4, 9 a.m. & 11 a.m.  
 Handel's Hallelujah Chorus with us!

**First Congregational Church of Berkeley**

open and affirming group of Christians

Patricia de Jong, Senior Minister

Channing Way (at Dana)

Charlotte at 510-848-3696 x21  
 available • www.fccb.org

Church of Christ



**Skyline Community Church**  
 invites you to share  
**Easter Worship**  
 with us!

♦ **Easter Ecumenical Sunrise Worship - 6:45 am** ♦  
 Enjoy the rising sun through our stunning window wall,  
 as we share the joy of Easter

♦ **Regular Easter Worship - 10:00 am** ♦  
 Special Music, Choir, Communion

**12540 Skyline Blvd.** (just 1/4 mile from Skyline High School)  
 Oakland • 531-8212

**Good Friday Tenebrae**  
 7:30 p.m. Holy Week Story told through  
 Beautiful Music and readings  
 Child care provided

**Easter Sunday**  
 8:30 a.m. Easter Eucharist  
 10 a.m. Worship  
 Brass Ensemble and Organ  
 Linda C. Loving preaching  
 Easter Egg Hunt follows Worship

**First Presbyterian Church of Oakland**  
 27th & Broadway  
 444-3555

**The United Congregation**  
 of

**First and Our Saviour's Lutheran**  
 4100 Mountain Blvd., Oakland, CA 510-531-8050  
 At Hwy. 13 and Redwood Road  
 Across from the Lincoln Square Shopping Center



Worship - March 28 - 10:00 a.m. with  
 a palm procession and reading of the  
 passion narrative from St. Matthew.

Sunday Thursday - April 1 - 7:00 p.m.  
 Service of Holy Communion  
 "Do this in remembrance of me"



Good Friday - April 2 - Ecumenical  
 Worship Service  
 Noon to 3:00 p.m.  
 Service will be in 20 minute segments.  
 Worshippers may come and go at anytime  
 during the service.



# Holy Week Services



**Lake Merritt Church**  
 UNITED METHODIST  
 1330 Lakeshore Ave • 465-4793

**Come Celebrate!**  
**Saturday, April 3, 10 a.m.**  
 Children's Egg Hunt at Smith Park

Daylight Savings Begins  
**Easter Sunday, April 4**  
 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Services

**Rejoice in the risen Christ!**  
 Childcare Available All Services  
 REV. MARY ELYN BAHLERT, PASTOR



Join us at  
**ST. CLEMENT'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
 for **HOLY WEEK SERVICES:**

Noon - 3 p.m. Good Friday Liturgy  
 8 a.m. & 10 a.m. Easter Holy Communion  
 with Music

2837 CLAREMONT BOULEVARD, NEAR ASHBY, IN BERKELEY  
 843-2678

**Lakeshore Ave. Baptist Church**  
 INTERRACIAL • INCLUSIVE

**Invites You to Worship**

**March 28 Palm Sunday** 10:00 a.m.  
 "Of Roaring Crowds and Still Small Voices"

**April 2 Good Friday** 12:15 p.m.  
 "My Prayer For You"

**April 4 Easter Sunday** 10:00 a.m.  
 "Even if Someone Should Rise from the Dead"  
 (Easter Egg Hunt for Children  
 follows the Worship Service)

**3534 Lakeshore Avenue • 893-2484**

PASTOR JIM HOPKINS

Come let the music lift you & the message move you.

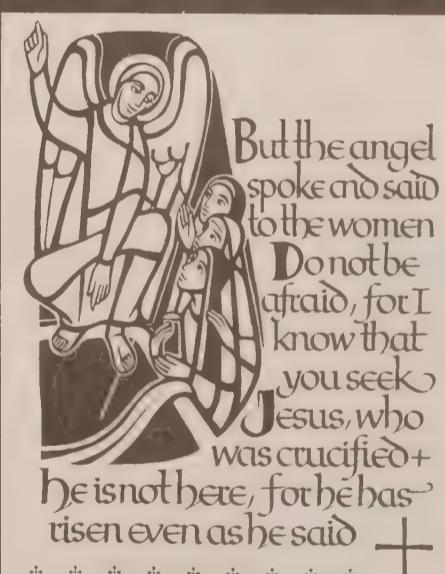
**Holy Week**  
 in Montclair

Thursday, April 1  
**HOLY THURSDAY SERVICES**  
 Communion served in the Round Room at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, April 4  
**EASTER SUNDAY**

8:00 a.m. — Garden Service  
 8:30 a.m. — Breakfast Fund-raiser for Sierra Service Project  
 10:00 a.m. — Celebration in the Sanctuary  
 10:15 a.m. — Sunday School for ages 2-5

Montclair United Methodist Church  
 2162 Mountain Blvd. at Snake • 531-8208



**Celebrate Easter with us!**

**6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service**

on our Rose Garden Patio

**9 & 11 a.m. Festival Services**

in the Sanctuary with Trumpets, Choir, & Organ

**Zion Lutheran Church**

5201 PARK BLVD • PIEDMONT/OAKLAND • 510-530-4213

**Celebrate His Spirit**

# Dining & Entertainment

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THEATRE  
**Theater Rats**  
Saturday and Summer Camp  
A fantastic camp for kids 6 1/2 to 13. Learn acting, singing, dancing, theatre skills, and more! Children will also enjoy swimming and field games. Saturdays begin April 31. Call (510) 883-7023 for more info.  
2640 College Avenue • Berkeley (510) 884-7007 • www.julimorgan.org

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Come Home to an Old Friend  
**\$6.00 OFF TWO ADULT DINERS DINE-IN ONLY**  
Valid Tues., Wed. and Thurs.  
Dinner include traditional favorites and gourmet specialties. Always fresh fish. Complete dinner or light menu  
Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner  
Tues. thru Sat. • Sunday Dinner 4-8pm  
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VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER

**Parkway Theater**  
Picture, Pub, & Pizza  
**Movie • Meal • Wine & Beer**  
ALL IN ONE ROOM  
**FRIDAY, APRIL 2**  
The Thin Red Line 5:45 p.m.  
Central Station 6:00 p.m.  
(U) Walking Ned Devine 7:00 p.m.  
(U) Rushmore 9:45 p.m.  
Rocky Horror Picture Show 12 midnight  
**SATURDAY, APRIL 3**  
Walking Ned Devine 3:00 p.m.  
(U) The Sweet Smell of Success 3:30 p.m.  
The Thin Red Line 5:45 p.m.  
Central Station 6:00 p.m.  
(U) Walking Ned Devine 7:00 p.m.  
(U) Rushmore 9:45 p.m.  
**SUNDAY, APRIL 4**  
The Thin Red Line (Baby Brigade) 5:45 p.m.  
Central Station 6:00 p.m.  
(U) Walking Ned Devine 7:00 p.m.  
(U) Rushmore 9:45 p.m.  
**MONDAY, APRIL 5**  
The Thin Red Line (Baby Brigade) 5:45 p.m.  
Central Station 6:00 p.m.  
(U) Walking Ned Devine 7:00 p.m.  
(U) Rushmore 9:45 p.m.  
**TUES.-WED., APRIL 6-7**  
The Thin Red Line 5:45 p.m.  
Central Station 6:00 p.m.  
(U) Walking Ned Devine 7:00 p.m.  
(U) Rushmore 9:45 p.m.  
**THURSDAY, APRIL 8**  
The Thin Red Line 5:45 p.m.  
Will There Ever Be Sweet Smell of Success 6:00 p.m.  
(U) Walking Ned Devine 7:00 p.m.  
(U) Rushmore 9:45 p.m.  
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# Opinion

## VIEWPOINT

### Focus on economic development

While the rest of the country is pushing ahead with "smart growth" legislation and creative local initiatives aimed at making communities more habitable and economically viable, El Cerrito seems to be stuck in the mud.

A recent recommendation to dismantle our redevelopment agency, made by a small number of citizens, participating in "21st Century Committee" meetings, will not help us dig out, I'm afraid. I support the committee's request for more readable and timely financial reports (even though I know we taxpayers will have to foot the bill for more accounting staff). However, the recommended four-year Redevelopment hiatus seems to me a case study in cutthroat politics.

In services crumbling, businesses folding, our budget crisis growing every day, and critical land use decisions to be made, we afford to throw away any tool that might aid our economic development efforts. And that's what Redevelopment is — just a tool, we can use to our great advantage in the coming years if we start about it.

I appreciate all the time and energy invested by those involved in "21st Century" meetings over the past year. I hope we can turn our collective energy — as citizens, staff, elected officials and mapping out an economic development strategy that will make our community more livable and economically secure.

Lori Dair

### ut redevelopment aside

According to your recent articles on the contentious issue of redevelopment in El Cerrito, I think it is time to consider both the background and a wider perspective that fills out the omitted from the "Viewpoint: The Rest of the Redevelopment Story" (March 25, 1999).

A resident of El Cerrito and a member of the Services for the Century Committee, I have followed the course of E.C.'s Redevelopment Agency activities in our community for several years, approaching the question of whether or not a "structural debt" in E.C. became necessary to look at the total financial picture, including the revenues and debt of the agency.

Spending \$32 million on a few big box projects, it became clear that it was important to ask the question: Are we better off than we were 20 years ago before redevelopment projects began? Looking at the many empty storefronts at the El Cerrito Plaza, main street" of San Pablo Avenue, the potholed, crumbly streetscape sadly down-at-the-heels appearance now, I can remember the vibrant city with a full-service department store, a quality "Co-op" that was a neighborhood social gathering place, a variety of locally owned stores that served the community well ago and have to conclude that redevelopment in theory is a good idea, but can be faulty in the execution, and has not lived up to the promise of either renovating blighted areas or improving economic conditions for this community.

Years of efforts have resulted in a few spotty, monolithic big boxes, fast food joints of all the major corporations. Properties were unfortunately acquired by the Redevelopment Agency at too high a price, sold to multimillionaire developers for too little, bring in insufficient tax increment revenue to cost the citizens of our community \$300,000 to \$800,000 in losses. The exact amount is undetermined since the city has not disclosed the extent of the loss.

The minority report would have you believe that redevelopment efforts and lawsuits are "inevitable." (Perhaps like flies on a dead?)

El Cerrito's most flagrant recent case in point: The Rubicon-Idaho deal, rammed through the City Council despite widespread opposition.

Rubicon wanted to renovate an aging motel on prime residential land, two blocks from the Plaza, to house homeless drug addicts, alcoholics, HIV infected individuals, and those with severe illnesses — all under one roof. The original \$350,000 loan would be repaid and later "forgiven" by the city and Redevelopment Agency. To the original \$350,000 must be added an additional \$100,000 in unforeseen costs at the site.

There is no free money. The citizens of E.C. will undoubtedly have to pay the tab for the entire amount as part of the debt burden. At the same time, the owners of the Travelodge Motel want to keep their motel facility and have asked for Redevelopment funding. Apparently, there is a growing demand for motel facilities a few miles away, while the Redevelopment Agency in its wisdom has remained a very desirable location, close to the freeway, BART and the El Cerrito.

Only 4 percent of the city's land area devoted to commercial office use, the Redevelopment Agency is slowly destroying the necessary commercial diversity of our community — resulting in housing that does not pay its fair share of the public costs it requires.

At the present debt of \$12,722,939 does it matter if the Redevelopment Agency does not repay the city for staff "loaned" to the city? If you consider that city staff has been paid to work matters and their time and effort has been siphoned off for other uses.

Although the principle author of the Minority Report has suggested that the debt burden should be repaid as quickly as possible, I would want you to believe that substituting "Economic Development" for "Redevelopment" is all that is necessary to transform the city's future targeted for renewal without a fundamental dialog between the City Council, city staff and the citizenry.

But a hiatus in activities of the agency, finding "new" programs for redevelopment may prove irresistible for some and serve as a diversion for others.

It is time for the City of El Cerrito to put redevelopment to rest and engage in a conversation with the community as to what kinds of development are desirable, what processes and tools are used to best meet our needs and what mix of skills, experience and background are necessary to lead such an effort into the century?

Evelyn Kiresen



### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

#### Yes 4 for Albany Schools

Measure A is on the ballot for the June 8 election.

A large effort is still being put into improving our school facilities.

Now, it is time to "retrofit" our programs within the classrooms with as much vigor as we can.

Measure A has been put on the ballot to restore and expand otherwise fading resources for the classroom opportunities for our students. Measure A will create the funds necessary to make a constructive possibilities many parents and teachers have been missing in the classroom for some time. All this with a modest cost of \$10 per month per Albany residence or business with an optional exemption for seniors.

The conversation has begun on improving

our school programs in Albany.

Please join the discussion on line:

<http://www.webtraders.com/~Yes4AlbanySchools>

Find out, online, about the reasons, ask questions, get answers, and how you can contribute in support of Measure A.

Learn about the issues, events, and how Measure A will benefit our community as a whole. This is an invitation to participate in the changes you were asking for.

Jacques Berchten  
Web Master  
[Yes4AlbanySchools](http://Yes4AlbanySchools)

#### Everyone's a winner

The AHS Booster Club and Track & Field fundraiser folks thought it would be nice to inform all those people out there who bought raffle tickets to help track and field, know who had the winning tickets.

First prize winner of the Schwinn bike from

Solano Avenue Cyclery went to Clay Larson of Albany.

Second prize winner of the watch from Richards Jewelers went to Felix Rivera of Albany.

Third prize winner of the \$100 certificate for Mary & Joe's went to Jane Wolff of Berkeley.

The raffle was a huge success and helped those involved in bringing back track and field to Albany High reach out to the community to let them know about this important addition to the high school program, and raise needed funds at the same time.

Thank you for running the article and picture of the members posing at Solano Avenue Cyclery. We got many, many phone calls from people interested in helping because they saw the article!!

Stacy Bock,  
Co-president AHS Athletic Booster Club

#### AROUND TOWN

By Chris Treadway

**MAYBE YOU WERE LUCKY ENOUGH** to catch last Sunday's Family Performance of the Oakland East Bay Symphony at the Richmond Convention Center. If so you not only heard selections of classical music by three 20th century composers (including George Gershwin), you saw student musicians from the West County and other area schools getting the extraordinary experience of performing side-by-side with the symphony members. But the point of the concert series (two are concluded and a third is coming up April 24) is "not to get kids interested in classical music or to play classical music," says OEB's conductor Michael Morgan. "It's to let kids know if I can come from a public school in Washington, D.C. and decide to become a conductor, then it's possible for them to do what they want to do. I know the exposure to people doing other things changes lives." Morgan made his remarks two weeks ago to the Rotary Club of El Cerrito, after spending the morning at Portola Middle School with "at-risk" students. "When I think of all the things those kids could be doing if they weren't there, it's very inspiring," Morgan said. If you're interested in the final OEBs performance out here (Morgan says the acoustics at the Richmond Convention Center "sound much better than in the Paramount Theatre" in Oakland where the OEBs normally plays), call 620-6792. Meanwhile, there are a

lot of kids in the district who are interested in playing music — a beneficial discipline if there ever was one — but can't afford instruments. If you have a string or band instrument collecting dust in your basement, garage or attic, you can donate it to the West County Unified School District and write it off as a tax deduction. Instruments can be taken to San Pablo to the Contra Costa College Music Building, Room 103, Monday through Friday from 11 a.m. to noon; or call 235-7800 to make arrangements for a drop-off. (The West County Fund is taking the lead role in both of these projects.)

**PARENTS MAKE THE SCHOOL WORLD GO ROUND:** Stacy Bock, co-president of the Albany High School Athletic Boosters, writes with the following e-mail: "I was catching up on my last Journal when I noticed the 'Worth Checking Out' section and was wondering if you could publish information about a fund-raising event being held by the high school athletic booster club. 'We're having a flea market in the big playground of Marin School on Marin Street and Santa Fe on April 25 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The proceeds go into the Athlete Booster Club's fund to help all the sports programs at the high school, because school funds cannot be stretched far enough. 'Donations are gladly accepted for this event. We could use anyone's unneeded 'treasures and trinkets' (no clothing, thanks), which are being collected by club member Becca Sanchez in her garage from April 10 to 16. Please de-

posit donations in an orderly fashion. Last year we received boxes of donations from Mary & Joes', and some very generous donations of computers, bikes, office equipment, good furniture. The extra kick from these large donations was much appreciated!" We'll go one better than that. We'll announce the event here first, and then in the "Worth Checking Out" section in coming weeks. Anyone who wants to make donations should call Stacy at 526-7631.

**OUR CALL FOR SUGGESTIONS** on where to dine out with small children finally got a response — from across the continent. Lori Dair of Lori and the Sustainables sends the following e-mail from his hiatus away from our EC to another (the East Coast): "There isn't a more wonderful neighborhood restaurant for small children and their parents anywhere in the universe than the Circus Pub in Kensington (Colusa Circle). But it's small and already very popular, so I am sure I shouldn't have mentioned it. Sometimes we get a raised eyebrow when we tell people we regularly take our daughter to the Pub, but those in the know are familiar with its charms: great food and drink, warm and cozy atmosphere, welcoming service, and a small play area for small children. If only there were more neighborhood restaurants like this one! It is in a class all by itself, unfortunately. If you are headed over the Richmond bridge anyway, Fresh Choice at one of those Corte Madera shopping centers is good, especially if you have several picky eaters who aren't picky about

the same things. Everyone can get what they want, and as much as they want, at this large, buffet style, fairly healthy, inexpensive restaurant. For those with babies or toddlers, the wheelable high-chairs make returning for seconds a breeze. And kids can begin eating even before you get through the buffet line, so it's great for emergency hunger attacks.

Strands at Del Norte Place has been very accommodating to our toddler, as well, and most kids can find something they like at Italian restaurants. We also especially love Ambrusso Garden, the Chinese vegetarian restaurant on San Pablo near Solano. And for those who miss the Plaza Chevy's, there's always Hilltop Chevy's. Cheers, Lori."

If you have a toddler — particularly if you are a first-time parent — these suggestions are invaluable. If you don't, you wouldn't understand. The Circus Pub, with its play area and boisterous atmosphere, is one-of-a-kind (although the play area is used for games of darts later in the evening). Strings is indeed a tolerant place, as our household learned when we were waiting for a table and our then 2-year-old suddenly decided to stand up by grabbing the large planter by the front door, toppling the planter and its contents rolling. Barney's Gourmet Hamburgers on Solano, while not formal dining, is likewise accommodating and a sufficient noise level to keep wee ones from standing out and disturbing others.

Any other suggestions are welcome.

# THE JOURNAL

PUBLISHER • SCOTT LITTLE  
EDITOR • CHRIS TREADWAY

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2. Who was the 1998 American League Rookie of the Year, and for what team did he play?

3. What Baseball player held the record for the Most Home Runs in a season BEFORE 1998?

4. What is the Oakland A's mascot name?

5. In 1998, two players exceeded the all-time home run record of 61 home runs. Who were they and what teams do they play?

6. "Billy Ball" was a well known term named after what manager of what Major League Baseball Team?

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# Real Estate & Home

The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, Berkeley Voice, The Journal

April 1-2, 1999

Section B

**Trends** Do-it-yourselfer? See what's available at a local rental yard [B3]

**Open Homes Guide** You just might find your dream home here [B6]

## Historic Dow mark should spark caution

Diverse holdings  
your best bet

Now that the Dow Jones Industrial Average has crossed the long-anticipated 10,000 threshold, investors want to know what's next.

When will the Dow hit 11,000? What are the best types of stocks to own in this market environment? Is it time to sell?

Before addressing these questions, let us take a closer look at this index. The DJIA is composed of 30 "blue chip" industrial stocks, such as General Motors and Exxon, listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

"Blue chip" refers to stocks with a history of steady growth, sound finances, strong management and the ability to pay dividends in good and bad times.

Be mindful that the Dow is not the only index used to measure stock market performance. The Standard & Poor's 500—based on the average performance of 500 widely held common stocks—is another often-quoted index.

The most important thing to remember about Dow 10,000 or future market milestones is to not get caught up in the celebration frenzy. Reaching the milestone is no guarantee the trend will continue.

Also, be aware that just because the

### Money Matters

By Leila Gough

Keep market milestones in perspective. Take a deep breath, enjoy the moment and then continue on a disciplined approach.

Dow has hit 10,000, not all stock prices are on the rise.

When will the Dow hit 11,000? History shows us that intervals between 1,000 point milestones in the Dow have been both long and short.

For example, it took the Dow 76 years—from 1896 to 1972—to climb the first 1,000 points. Fifteen years later, the Dow topped 2,000. Dow 4,000 was reached on February 23, 1996. Only nine months later, the Dow climbed another 1,000 points to reach 5,000.

As you can see, predicting when the

Dow will hit 11,000 is not an easy task. Your best strategy is to invest in high-quality stocks for the long-term (at least three to five years) and not worry about when the next Dow milestone will be reached.

What are the best types of stocks to own? A select group of large-company growth stocks are mainly responsible for the recent run-up in the Dow.

That leaves the door wide open for other stocks to surge higher or for today's winners to take a nose-dive.

Instead of focusing on which stocks are likely to climb higher, make sure you have a diversified portfolio of stocks—at least eight stocks representing different industries. Some of them should probably be small company stocks.

In addition, consider adding a few stocks of U.S. firms with multinational operations in case our economy hits the skids and foreign markets rebound.

Is it time to sell? If you have not reviewed your portfolio lately, you might want to take a peek. When stock prices keep rising, so does the percentage of stocks that comprise your portfolio. That may mean that stocks now make up a greater proportion of your overall portfolio than you had originally intended when you established your investment mix.

See DOW, Page B8

## Neighbors tackle neglect in Berkeley community park

By Gayle Tantau  
AFFILIATION HERE

Oak Park, a small plot of land on the corner of Domingo and El Camino in the Claremont Park District of Berkeley, is drawing lots of community attention.

This park for years was just filled with weeds and fallen branches, and was generally unsightly.

That's changing lately, in large part due to the efforts of very interested neighbors, City of Berkeley Mayor Shirley Dean and Berkeley Council Member Polly Armstrong.

Also involved are Parks Department landscape architect Roger Ravenstad and

See PARK, Page B8



TANTAU PHOTOS

OAK PARK FRIENDS Annette Min and David Hunn are working to rehabilitate the park (above, left).

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Floor plan. Living room w/ beam  
flrs, FDR, den, 5BD/3.5BA. Au pair  
separate entrance. Decks, skylights, partial  
views. Just listed. Adriana Giacomelli

39,000....Rockridge Traditional  
arming, sunny home, Split-level,  
2.5BA large living room w/ fireplace,  
back doors to large deck overlooking large  
lawn. Hdwd flrs. Norm Robinow

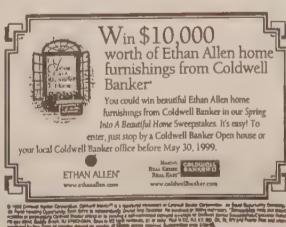
25,000....Worth The Walk  
This spacious 12-yr-old Montclair home has  
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# Buyers can get a fair shake despite this sellers' market

By Brian Williamson  
PRUDENTIAL CALIFORNIA REALTY

You've probably heard by now: It's a seller's market out there.

Yes, the real estate market has turned an about face from just a few years ago, and now buyers are finding that prices and purchase terms are often more favorable to the sellers.

Don't worry or feel intimidated, especially if you are looking to buy. Here are some things that buyers should take special note of to ensure that they get a fair deal:

## Hire a real estate professional

Seek an agent who will represent

you in your search. An agent can help you zero in on the homes that will work for you, and may even know of homes not "on the market" which you would otherwise miss.

## Don't buy on impulse

With such a competitive real estate market out there, sometimes with little inventory, you may be tempted to buy on impulse. Don't. Remember, this is a long-term investment and you must exercise caution when making this purchase. Take the time to research the market, and don't let your fear of losing out on a house make you buy too hastily. You may live to regret it.

## Tips show how homework, strategy can pay off in the long run

### Get pre-approved financing

### contingencies

Be sure to get quotes from at least three lenders and get a pre-qualification or a pre-approval letter before making an offer. Let mortgage rates, not price, be the most important consideration. You can afford to pay more for the house if you can lock into a low mortgage rate. Pre-approved financing will expedite the process when you decide to make an offer on a house.

### Bid fair and try to minimize

If you do have contingencies, be sure they are supported with explanations. Sellers are more likely to accept if you give fair explanations.

### Don't skip on the home inspection

Sure, you may want the house really badly, but don't eliminate the home inspection contingency. You never know what the inspection might turn up. And if there are findings, you will be glad you paid the fee for that inspection. This is especially true for As-Is properties.

### Beware overpricing

It's not uncommon for sellers to overvalue their homes. This is especially a problem in today's seller's market. Sellers may think they can get a lot more than their home's actual value because the market is so competitive. Be aware of this. You don't want to pay too much for a home, or you may not get your

money out of it. This is especially true if the market is down. Years, to a buyer's market, are ready to sell. You can compare prices of similar houses if the price is reasonable.

Today's real estate can be a little intimidating, especially for buyers. But remember, knowledge of your own circumstance of an experienced professional, you will be wise in a seller's market.

Brian Williamson is an experienced Realtor. He can be reached at 287-9281 or (510) 845-4000.

## 'Doctor Contractor' makes house calls

### Firm Foundation

By Don Pearman

Do you ever long for the days when, if you had the flu, you could call your doctor and in no time at all he would drop by to start you down the road to recovery? And you wouldn't have to take out a second mortgage on your house to finance the bill?

As the practice of medicine has gotten bigger, along with the doctor's office (or offices), staff, and computer systems, personal relationships between patient and doctor seem to have gone by the wayside.

In some cases construction companies have structured themselves on this bigger is better theory.

They have large expensive offices, lots of overhead, and sales reps who just love to sell a new kitchen, bath or addition.

But please don't call when the hot water heater fails on Sunday afternoon in the middle of a football game right before dinner for 12.

On one recent Sunday afternoon, I got such a call from a client for whom we had done extensive remodeling work at different times over many years.

The situation: The water heater will not stay lit and we need hot water! Am I going to have to wait until Monday and put in a new hot water heater?"

The client described the symptoms, telling me that in attempting to relight the pilot light, she pushed

in the little red button and lit the pilot light, which, to her dismay, would only stay lit when the button was depressed.

If she released the button, the pilot light would extinguish itself. Contemplating (a) having a family member hold down the button until the hot water need was met, and (b) having a very large bill to get hot water again, she called me. I watched the "Niners kick the winning goal as I picked up the phone.

After listening to her story, I told her that the main failure location in hot water heaters is the thermocouple and that it would be an easy procedure to take the part out, go down to the local hardware store, buy a new one for \$5.00 and reinstall the new one.

A thermocouple is the little wiry-looking thing that has a probe on it that is next to the pilot light. When the pilot light is lit, the little probe sends micro-volts of electricity through the wire back to the base of the temperature control unit. The unit is normally threaded in at the bottom of the temperature control and secured with a small nut.

See DOCTOR, Page B8

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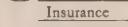


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# Apartment an alternative to senior home move

## True Experiences

By Tarhoff and Talbert

on vacation, Estelle and Frank returned the favor.

Gradually they realized that, while still enthusiastic and energetic, they wanted freedom from caring for the house. Frank wasn't comfortable climbing a ladder and working on the roof. Estelle, still cleaning to her heart's content, didn't enjoy cooking anymore; she'd rather eat what someone else had prepared. They decided to look at other places they might live.

They visited senior complexes in the area, a number of facilities owned by various churches. Most offered apartments in high-rise buildings with meals, recreation rooms, laundry and room cleaning services.

For an entry price plus a monthly fee, many promised lifelong care, including nursing and medical attention, if needed.

This was tempting. Frank and Estelle could sell their house and be able to pay \$150,000 to secure their apartment in the complex of their choosing.

It would be smaller than their house, but they could move their own furniture in; someone else would do the vacuuming, provide bed linens, launder their clothes and, best of all, feed them. They would make new friends, watch movies in

the common recreation areas, attend exercise classes, and go on organized outings with the other residents.

After the initial buy-in, it would cost \$2,000 a month from then on, and they planned to be careful.

They visited the complex a number of times, talked with staff and residents, ate a number of meals (which they found quite tasty), and checked out the medical plan.

Finally, they were satisfied. They paid a deposit, selected the color of the carpet that would be installed in their apartment, and signed a contract.

Then they got busy at home. They cleaned out every already-well-organized drawer and closet; sorted, cleared and packed. Frank gave away his bottled collection of nails, screws and other house-handy hardware. Estelle set aside for sale her now little-used cookie sheets and cake pans, tablecloths and extra blankets.

The senior home sent someone to the house to measure their furniture and plot it on an apartment floor plan. The dining room and kitchen tables wouldn't be needed; the extra bed and couch wouldn't fit. They'd sell these. Also the motor home.

Trips, from now on, would be with tours: France, they were already planning, would be next.

They listed their house for sale with us. We adored them from the first. They are sweet, kind, interesting people and we are grateful to know them. We asked if they were sure they wanted to sell.

Their house was in very good shape, was all on one level, was in a pleasant, quiet neighborhood, and it cost them very little to live there.

Did they really want to go to the senior home?

Yes, it would allow them to travel more. Yes, Estelle wouldn't have to cook anymore. Yes, there would be no more concern about house maintenance. And so the house was sold.

About 10 days after the contract was signed, right in the thick of Estelle and Frank lining up the movers, and after the buyers of their dining and kitchen tables had come, paid and fetched them away, we got a phone call from Frank.

He and Estelle had been talking to their daughter and she had been going through their finances. Their house had sold, as many do these days, for more than they expected, and that was a godsend. But, nevertheless, they now had calculated, they would have no money in 15 years. They'd be flat broke.

God willing, they'd still be alive

in 15 years. If their money was gone, they could apply for public assistance; the senior home would accept these payments and continue to house, feed and care for them.

But the very idea of being flat broke was anathema to Frank and Estelle. What, they asked us, could they do?

We asked if they still wanted to sell the house. They did. We asked if they had considered other senior facilities which do not require a large cash payment. They said that in their earlier search they hadn't found any of these to their liking.

Maybe they should rent a regular apartment, Frank suggested. Except, he remembered, Estelle would still have to cook. But that might be OK. Maybe they would eat out a lot.

We said that they could eat out every day at every meal for quite a long time if they weren't paying \$150,000+ for the senior home. But they'd be giving up all the other advantages that the home provides. We said we didn't see how we could

weigh these things for them.

That afternoon, as we were trying to figure how we could find an apartment for Frank and Estelle if that's what they decided they wanted, we got another phone call from Frank. He was very excited and cheery. They'd found an apartment, he told us, and they'd rented it!

It was what they wanted: close to their favorite movie house and to Frank's bridge game, near the senior center where Estelle takes her classes, and within easy walking distance of restaurants, groceries and buses. All of their furniture would fit, there was a laundry area, even a garage.

It couldn't be more ideal except for a couple of minor things: They'd sold the dining tables and Estelle would still have to cook. But, they thought, they could work these things out and, we are sure, they will.

Why, by the following afternoon, they'd already bought themselves a new table.

**Pat Talbert and Anet Tarhoff are licensed agents and area specialists who also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached at (510) 653-2050.**

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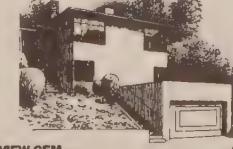
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**SUCH A DEAL.....\$249,500**  
 2BR, 2BA, approx. 1368 sq. ft., Updated kitchen & baths. Dual pane windows, large family room. Lots of storage in basement, garage. #99005597 Paul Triplett 510-335-9640

**CUSTOM RANCH BEAUTY.....\$339,500**  
 3BR, 2BA with potential 4th bedroom. Spacious single level. Tile throughout. Formal dining room, fabulous floor plan, 2 car garage, cute backyard. #99005898 Michele Manzone 510-222-2644

**UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY.....\$339,950**  
 2 story home, close to all amenities, with 2BR, 1BD both up and downstairs. Upstairs has new carpet paint and upgraded kitchen/baths. Unlimited potential, possible rental or in-law. #99006653 Michele Manzone 510-222-2644

**RICHMOND ANNEX**

**SWEET HOME IN THE ANNEX.....\$112,000**  
 2BR, 1BA, well cared for home, 1 car attached garage, dining room, nice backyard, central heat, fresh paint. #98645908 Audrey Stiner 510-724-3010

**STARTER HOME.....\$132,500**  
 Clean 2BR, 1BA home in Richmond Annex. 902 sq. ft. with large kitchen, flat lot, landscape & 5 blocks to BART. Superb opportunity! As Is. #99001251 David K. 510-222-9772 ext. 235

**RICHMOND NORTH & EAST**

**GREAT STARTER HOME.....\$159,500**  
 2BR, 1 remodeled bath. Hardwood floors, large updated kitchen, new roof, freshly painted, formal dining room, great location! #99005250 Rony Atme 510-620-0375

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**WHAT A GEM! PRICE REDUCTION.....\$207,500**  
 Newer 3BR/2BA home on a quiet cul-de-sac. Recently refurbished. Beautiful private yard. Convenient to shopping and easy freeway access. #99001362 Magany Abbass 510-222-9772 ext. 236

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**Weekly Home Sales**

3310 Glenly Rd. - \$136,500  
 225 Gravatt Dr. - \$59,000  
 3538 Hageman Ave. - \$208,000  
 1819 Hansom Dr. - \$280,000  
 3506 Harrison St. - \$125,000  
 2468 Hearst Ave. - \$205,000  
 133 Hillsdale Ave. - \$1,095,000  
 1166 Holman Rd. - \$225,000  
 3956 Huntington St. - \$259,000  
 1 Kelton Ct. #7A - \$102,000  
 16 Maggiora Dr. - \$260,000  
 525 Mandana Blvd. - \$157,500  
 1705 Manzanita Dr. - \$450,000  
 3481 Margarita Ave. - \$210,000  
 4619 Meldon Ave. - \$250,000  
 4125 Mera St. - \$250,000  
 3161 Middleton St. - \$249,000  
 4348 Montgomery St. - \$286,000  
 2963 Morcom Ave. - \$150,000  
 10 Moss Ave. #38 - \$62,500  
 1435 Mountain Blvd. - \$316,000  
 1120 Oakland Ave. - \$220,000  
 2621 Oliver Ave. - \$130,500  
 407 Orange St. #206 - \$77,000  
 221 Palm Dr. - \$59,000  
 3220 Park Blvd. - \$158,000  
 347 Perkins Ln. - \$161,500  
 6126 Pinewood Rd. - \$230,000  
 791 Prospect Ave. - \$275,000  
 6862 Ridgewood Dr. - \$309,000  
 2821 Ritchie St. - \$70,000  
 71 Roble Rd. - \$267,500  
 8 Rydal Ct. - \$42,000  
 364 Santa Clara Ave. - \$250,000  
 1 Schooner Hill - \$421,000  
 8261 Skyline Ct. - \$426,000  
 3230 Suter St. - \$124,000

2355 Tiffin Rd. - \$237,500  
 1871 Trestle Glen Rd. - \$690,000  
 8120 Utah St. - \$195,000  
 921 Vermont St. - \$384,000  
 3751 Victor Ave. - \$340,000  
 9870 Walnut St. - \$66,000  
 7868 Weld St. - \$90,000  
 5419 Yuba Ave. - \$163,000

**PIEDMONT**

560 Mountain Ave. - \$645,000

**RICHMOND**

2950 14th St. - \$120,000  
 2749 17th St. - \$156,000  
 2853 21st St. - \$146,000  
 637 30th St. - \$143,000  
 669 31st St. - \$155,000  
 677 31st St. - \$139,000  
 650 38th St. - \$126,500  
 320 3rd St. - \$85,000  
 640 8th St. - \$95,500  
 504 Alamo Ave. - \$68,000  
 753 Alhambra Rd. - \$135,000  
 171 Bonnie Dr. - \$121,000  
 717 Bradford Dr. - \$78,500  
 2157 Broadmore Ave. - \$188,000  
 2959 Brook Wy. - \$121,000  
 3615 Cerrito Ave. - \$75,000  
 5344 Debra Ln. - \$259,000  
 1217 Denicito St. - \$165,000  
 1241 East Victoria Ct. - \$185,000  
 2583 El Portal Dr. #A - \$112,000  
 2843 Esmond Ave. - \$102,000  
 5917 Fresno Ave. - \$200,000  
 3618 Garvin Ave. - \$132,000  
 150 Harbour Wy. - \$76,500  
 6351 Hillside Dr. - \$240,000

2594 Kenney Dr. - \$162,000  
 5470 Lenora Rd. - \$267,000  
 2534 Main St. - \$85,000  
 2713 McBryde Ave. - \$112,500  
 3621 McBryde Ave. - \$111,000  
 2634 Ohare Ave. - \$93,500  
 2012 Santa Clara St. - \$235,000  
 530 South 16th St. - \$88,000  
 530 South 28th St. - \$67,500  
 6277 Taft Ave. - \$236,000  
 2882 Tara Hills Dr. - \$141,000  
 4908 Thunderhead Ct. - \$205,000  
 4486 Utah Dr. - \$139,000  
 4690 Valley View Rd. - \$185,000

**SAN LEANDRO**

1645 162nd Ave. - \$170,000  
 1457 Abbey Ave. - \$195,000  
 1321 Advent Ave. - \$160,000  
 15626 Baypoint Ave. - \$374,000  
 15931 Berkshire Rd. - \$210,000  
 2389 Blackpool Pl. - \$187,000  
 16298 Blanco St. - \$150,000  
 317 Caliente Cl. #48 - \$133,000  
 553 Cape Cod Dr. - \$238,000  
 1589 Cedar Ave. - \$195,000

82 Dorchester Ave.  
 2328 Driftwood Wy.  
 1279 Esser Ave. - \$174,000  
 15012 Grenda St. - \$177,000  
 2012 Liberty Wy.  
 2107 Liberty Wy.  
 527 Maud Ave. - \$301,000  
 15374 Norton St. - \$124,000

This list was compiled for the Hills Newspapers by the Tech of Oakland which records from the recorder's office. Neither guarantees accuracy or completeness of the information. Such estimates based upon county transfer taxes. All requests for additional information be directed to Bud Gorham 568-7233.

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**\*\*OPEN HOME GUIDE\*\***

**OAKLAND ...OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30...**

5560 GOLDEN GATE, Rockridge new! Spacious grounds. Front court-yd. 3-car gar. Gourn. kit. 4+3/1-Big. Sunny! Coldwell Banker, Jon Alford 351-5400.

911 AQUARIUS WAY, Montclair. New & beautiful 5bd/3-ba/w/warm finishes & grt light. Kit/fam rm. Office. Level yd. Pacific Union, Dick Cohen 351-5400.

6915 NORFOLK RD, Claremont Hills. New Listing! Artistically created 5bd/3ba, w/detl. Gorgeous kitchen! Pacific Union, Wendy Sprague 359-6460.

1056 CLARENDON CRESCENT, Crocker Charm. 5/3, main flr. mstr. Hdws, bw, rumpus, bsmnt, yd, deck, pab. Coldwell Banker, Jon Alford 351-5400.

6155 FAIRLANE DR, Montclair. 4+bd/3ba. 2800+ sq. ft. Upgrades galore! Gourmet granite kitchen. Large deck. Large flat lot. Marilyn, Agent. 923-933-4195 OPEN SATURDAY ONLY 1-4

26 BINNACLE HILL, Hiller Highlands. 3bd/3ba w/unparalleled panoramic views! LaSalle Properties, Carol Cohen 339-8900

625 WALA VISTA, Crocker. Just Listed! 1912 3+2+ Craftsman. 2fr. Bit-ins, bow beam ceiling. Brick courtyd. Terraced yd. Coldwell Banker Ruby Ng/Karen Lum 339-1174

1563 TRESTLE GLEN, Crocker Highlands. IVY COVERED CLASSIC! Stunning interior used in ads & videos. 4/3+4. LR w/cathedral ceiling & wall windows. Orignal detail. Wooded terrace lot. KEYNOTE PROPERTIES 415-563-1563.

6874 MOORE DR, Montclair. 3+3/3. Little Red Riding Hood lived here after she married Prince Charming! Prudential CA, Andrew Sussman 359-5957.

7140 BUCKINGHAM, Hiller. 4bd/2ba w/2 kitchens. Ideal in-law set-up. Private setting. Prudential CA 834-2010, Darrin Tinsley 287-5837

390 63<sup>RD</sup> ST, Rockridge. Comfortable & charming 3bd/1ba. Total remodel in '91. An Easter Egg Garden! Prudential CA, Julie Lehman 845-6022.

3335 BURDECK DR, Montclair schools. Bright 4/3 in wooded setting. FDR, fam rm, EIK, workshop, decks, patio. Coldwell Banker, Elena Stone 339-5460.

4008 LA CRESTA, Just Listed! Gorgeous 3/2 Glenview charmer! MBR suite, kit w/hdwds, LR w/blt-ins & fpi, FDR, small office, rebuilt garage, com Nw plumbing/foundation/wiring. Wells & Bennett, Don Dunning 482-2256.

484 STOW, Lake Merritt. Neat duplex. Nice owner's unit. Rader garden. Walk to Lake! Prudential CA, Richard Matus 834-2010

191 40<sup>TH</sup> ST WY, New Listing! 1916 Craftsman w/EZ to care pab. Near Piedmont Ave. 1.5 blocks to shops, coffee houses, bank. 3bd/2ba. 1<sup>st</sup> fl. Coldwell Banker, Nader Davan 339-1174

4437 CARSON ST, Redwood Hts. 3+bd/1+ba. FIRST OPEN! Charming. Plantation shutters, plank firs, rumpus, lg yd. Pacific Union, Robyn Mohr 359-5400.

3173 MONTICELLO AVE, Maxwell Park. 2bd/1ba mini-house w/tpfl. hdws, great south bay view. "AS IS". Prudential CA, Camille Rogers 845-6222.

3355 MacARTHUR BL, Laurel. 2bd/1ba delightful bungalow. Hdws, patio, hill vw. EZ SF commute. Move in ready! Prudential CA, Roxanne 845-6222.

ALAMEDA ...OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30...

1356 MOUND, New Listing! Wonderful East End Contemporary w/rgt in/out living! 3bd/2ba & family rm. Pacific Union, Michelle Miller 339-6462.

BERKELEY ...OPEN SUNDAY...

758 SPRUCE, 4bd/3.5ba Elegant Tudor w/Bay Views. Coldwell Banker, Lydia Melsen 486-1495 2-4

1178 LAUREL, 3bd/3ba w/spectacular views! Over 1/4 acre. Plus an in-law unit! Thornwall Properties, Kathryn Hill 848-1950 X242

169 AVENIDA DR, New Listing! Romantic Hideaway in Berkeley Hills. 3bdrm/1.5ba. Ideal home office. Bay View. Decks. Garage. Quiet. Secluded

OPEN SUNDAY & SUNDAY 2-5 841-1428

3034 FULTON ST, 3bd Craftsman on great street. Good condition. Large bsmnt, garage w/va. Prudential CA, Liz Stevens 845-0200

2608 ASHY AVE, Elmwood. Beautiful 3bd/2.5 Craftsman. Hdws, updt electric/plumbing. Walk shops. Prudential CA, Greg Gayle 845-2020

1320 HENRY, 3bd/2.5 bath townhome in the Gourmet Gheto. Coldwell Banker, Lorri Arazi 486-1495 2-4

1322 QUEENS RD, 2bd/1.5ba. Light & Lovely. Bay & GG view. Contemporary in serene setting! Wonderful indoor/outdoor flow from LR to B

FIRST OPEN! Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X109 2-4

1005 HEARST AVE, New Listing! Charming updt 3bd/2br shingle bungalow nr 4<sup>th</sup> St. Yd & deck. Pacific Union, Donna Deardi 339-6460 4-830

2335 10<sup>TH</sup> ST #C, 2bd/1ba cottage condo. Calm environment. Your city seclusion. Prudential CA Realty, Graham Carter 845-0200 2-4300

EL CERRITO ...OPEN SUNDAY 2-4...

6416 BARRETT, 3/3 trad!, Warm & Spacious. Deck & Garden. Den. B. Family Room. Big kitchen. Marvin Gardens 527-9111, Mary Gray 559-2915

RICHMOND ...OPEN SUNDAY 2-4...

2138 DUNN, Richmond Gem! 2bdm w/original character. Spacious kitchen. FDR. Pvt yd. Quiet street. Marvin Gardens 527-9111, Mary Gray 559-2915

SAN LEANDRO ...OPEN SATURDAY 2-4...

14234 OUTRIGGER DR, 3/2/5 twins w/updt kit. Two 1-car garages

View of fountain & streams. All appliances included. Pool, tennis, spa, Harbor Bay Realty, Tere Lee & Karin Ingeman 814-4878

When it's your move...

# Berkeley owners call for maintenance funds

## Board Watch

By Peggy Schioler

also be viewed as an educational program, teaching tenants how to get their landlord in trouble for poor maintenance and code violations.

The ultimate reward for such harassment of landlords is the right to withhold rent and live for free until the problem gets corrected.

Admittedly, the drastic remedy of rent withholding is state law. An argument could be made for not enforcing that law or working around it in places such as Berkeley where, despite vacancy decontrol, confiscatory rent control remains in effect for long-term, low-rent units.

It is fair to assume that here, as elsewhere, the vast majority of owners take good care of their property; all of which are more — much more — than 20 years old, in a building's life when maintenance and repair costs start to escalate, like people, start to fall as they grow older.

As owner maintenance becomes a more and more costly item, a fact of the members of the present board seem to appreciate, rather than find some way to low-rent housing provider can or improve his property, he spends our registration fees on outreach programs, ostensibly to tenants of their rights.

Our outreach program, along with our council-sponsored Tenant Project (TAP) may, however,

front, and it takes time to assemble invoices, proof of payment, and records of self-labor, perhaps only to have it all returned and start over again, because something was left out or not done quite right.

Uncertainty for all the foregoing reasons and because one never quite knows which of the items applied for might not qualify.

Fear. Who knows what minor infraction of the rent law might come to light during the process and what complications that might engender?

Most of these problems could be overcome with the help of a consultant, but that adds an extra expense for an owner already strapped for funds; furthermore, now post-vacancy decontrol, the cost for a consultant may no longer be passed along in a rent increase, but must be absorbed by the petitioning landlord.

Let us say the petition is approved and the rent board grants an increase to be distributed among the units benefited.

You are still not home-free if you had a vacancy decontrol rent increase after the first of the year.

You thought the increase would show up in your bottom line, but the rent board has developed a neat little trick to confiscate it. The trick is contained in Subsection (I), added January 1, at the very end of eight-page regulation 1267, governing capital improvements.

Here it explains that if you have taken a post-January 1 vacancy increase, then the rent you are col-

lecting for that unit in excess of the old rent ceiling "shall be applied to reduce the rent adjustments otherwise allocable to other units in the subject property."

To put this devilish new rule in practical terms, let's look at how it affects an owner of a five-unit building with long-term tenants, each paying \$50 per month.

To bring this building up to code, the owner has installed a new roof plus building-wide new plumbing and electrical wiring.

He petitions for a capital improvement increase, and the rent board decides he may recoup his costs with a permanent increase of \$450/month, which works out to \$90/month for each unit.

But owner had filled a vacancy after January 1 at market rent of \$1000 — \$450 more than the old rent ceiling.

Regulation 1267 (I) says that \$450 to cover the entire capital improvement increase granted — not a penny is passed through to any of the beneficiaries of improvements.

Talk about a free lunch for tenants! The hapless owner is, of course, in the same unprofitable situation as he was before.

Our rent law says its purpose is "to protect tenants from unwarranted rent increases," not "from any increases."

With regulation 1267 (I), our rent board commissioners have started their campaign to cancel out any advantage we may have gained from vacancy decontrol.

# Local Realtor pioneers interactive marketing tool

## The Grubb Co.

The GRUBB CO. has entered a new dimension in marketing its residential real estate services to the public. On March 2, The GRUBB CO. distributed its new interactive multimedia disc to residences throughout Piedmont.

This is the first time a locally owned residential Realtor has produced a CD-ROM.

"I wanted to find a way to market our company that would allow our clients to see who we are as an organization," explained company partner Don Woolhouse. This CD-ROM allows you to visually meet our management, our staff and our agents."

The CD-ROM, produced by InstantVision, includes scenes of properties around the East Bay using a digital camera, brief comments by members of The GRUBB CO., and testimonials by families who recently purchased or sold homes through The GRUBB CO.

"I don't know of another real estate company that has taken such aggressive steps toward meeting the needs of new home buyers," said GRUBB CO. agent Katherine Cooper.

"We are engaging a computer-literate society through this interactive CD ROM. Our audience of home buyers and sellers has been communicating with us through our Web site and now we have the capability to communicate with them."

The CD ROM allows viewers to connect directly to the GRUBB CO. Web site for a wide range of information, including listings by price, size and area.

One of the strongest advocates of this leap into marketing as it likely will be done in the 21st century is partner Donald Grubb Jr.

"It has been fascinating how modern technology has created corpo-

rate introspection on who we are as an effective boutique residential brokerage company," Grubb said.

"This creates a new point of entry for our clients: a way for them to see us long before we meet them. This CD gives them an intimate look at us and the services we offer. We're very excited about this project."



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NEW LISTING! FOR SALE: 1349 PARK ST. Commercial Bld. Approx 5,906 sq. ft. Call for information

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201 PACIFIC AVE. 1 BD. 1 BA Woodstock Td. Shown by appt. only REDUCED TO \$139,000

7 KINGSBURY CT. 2 BD. 3 1/2 BA Marina Village, plus extra bedroom, lagoon view PRICE REDUCTION

\$330,000

3 UNITS. 2112 LINCOLN. 3 BD. 2 BA 2114 & 2114 B LINCOLN. 1+ BD. 1 BA. Large lot, site plans available for additional units. \$43,500

**OAKLAND**

3148 MAXWELL DR. 3 BD. 1 1/2 ba, lovely Maxwel area \$184,000

**SAN LEANDRO**

NEW LISTING! OPEN SAT. 2-4. — 14234 OUTRIGGER DR. 3 Bd. 2 1/2 ba. two 1-car garages \$210,000

**NEW LISTING!** 14415 SEAGATE DR. "D" Model 3 BD. 2 1/2 BA. 2-car garage

att \$230,000

14009 SEAGATE DR. \$235,000

718 FREDERIC DR. \$145,000

**SOLD**

BD. 1 BA To be sold "As is" \$141,000

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**Oakland**

**\$30,000 1875 81 ST. Lot** - Great site for duplex. Seller wants to sell now and may carry with good down payment. Call for details: Richard Powell 814-4837

**\$85,000 5744 GASKILLST.** Single level 2 bedroom, 1 bath bungalow w/ fireplace, some hardwood floor and detached garage. To be sold "as is". Martha Turner 814-4828

**\$108,000 1532 E. 10TH AVE.** Victorian style cottage. Two bedrooms, 1 bath, large eat-in kitchen and full basement suitable for large shop, newer exterior paint, front off street parking and large rear yard. Russ Grant 814-4713

**\$119,000 3841 MAYBELLE DR.** 2 BD. 1 1/2 BA condo. Great location above MacArthur Blvd. in a small complex with fireplace and covered parking. Russ Grant 814-4713

**\$133,000 5740 MAYBELLE DR.** 2 BD. 1 1/2 BA townhouse. Great condition! Both units are 2 BD. 1 BA. Close to Mills College. Kathy Hirsch 814-4706

**\$145,000 573 S. JAYNE AVE.** 2 BD. Spacious 2 bedroom, 1 bath condo near Lake Merritt. Large living & dining room, fireplace, security building a 1-car parking space. Donn Gutierrez 814-4854

**\$169,000 2110 BAXTER ST.** Single level bungalow with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, in cul-de-sac location! Great stately home, many windows, finished basement and off street parking. To be sold "as is". Martha Turner 814-4828

**\$184,000 3148 MAXWELL DR.** Lovely single level cottage. Large windows, freshly painted and plumbing in full basement for second bathroom. Terri Lee 521-3352

**\$235,000 2467 HIGHLAND AVE.** Comer property with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath in owner's unit upstairs. Lois Vickland 814-4819

**\$349,000 4325 MOUNTAIN VIEW AVE.** Single level 3 bedroom, 3 bath, large family room, room extra large family room, large sunroom, green house and refinished hardwood floors. Room for expansion! Shirley Ellis 522-5545

**PENNDING**

**\$235,000 14009 SEAGATE DR.** Lovely "D" Model 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home with view of pool. Former model home, great condition! Inspector report available. Terri Lee 521-3352

**SOLD**

**\$235,000 2216 ROME CT.** Lovely 3 bedroom, 2 bath home with view of Bay, city lights and hills! Single level Cul-de-Sac location with new roof, gutters, landscaping, paint and carpet. Two car attached garage. Ready to move-in! Kathy Hirsh 814-4708

**Pittsburg**

## THORNWALL PROPERTIES WELCOMES LEE GOODWIN



Thornwall Properties, Inc. is extremely proud to welcome real estate veteran Lee Goodwin to its ranks of innovative, caring professionals.

Lee returns to the Bay Area after a successful real estate career in Portland, Oregon. She has added determination to her enthusiasm and knowledge in order to conquer this fast paced Bay Area housing market.

Happy to be back in the East Bay community, Lee has already begun helping both buyers and sellers make their real estate dreams come true!

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## Park

FROM PAGE B1

Berkeley Parks Commissioner Gordon Wozniak.

The Friends of Oak Park and participating neighbors have wanted the park to be visually pleasing and environmentally safe. They wanted it to be a place that is maintained year-round, a place that would encourage birds and discourage dogs.

### You've come a long way, baby

Julie Lehman, a longtime resident of the Claremont neighborhood, had 22 years' experience walking past the park on her way to work at 2 Tunnel Road. She remembers the state of the park before neighbors took a stand.

Oak Park "was a place I wanted to avoid ... The park was unkempt and littered. There was also an occasional ominous looking character lurking around," she said.

I spoke with one neighbor who knew a great deal about the history of the Claremont Park District. She suggested that Oak Park was planned and developed by Duncan McDuffie, the founder of Mason-McDuffie Real Estate.

McDuffie originally owned and developed the beautiful neighborhoods of Claremont Park and Claremont Court.

For McDuffie, maintaining the corner of Domingo and El Camino as a park was his way of introducing the Claremont Park District.

Keeping the neighborhood in harmony with nature was all part of McDuffie's philosophy of gracious living. Duncan McDuffie was probably the person who named Oak Park, but, unfortunately, this information is not documented.

### Down and dirty

The first official Oak Park committee meeting was held on February 15, 1996. A survey was made to see what the residents of the area wanted in this space.

In 1997, a number of black acacia trees were removed for safety reasons, the perimeter sidewalk was completely redone and a graceful path was put across the park.

A major roadblock for maintaining the park is lack of money in the budget. Who will stay on top of the weed problem?

In fall of 1998, Kim Habu of the Claremont office of Prudential California Realty, became a steady volunteer to help with the park project.

Habu sent out a second survey to the neighbors to find out their current wishes for the park. She also started a sign-up sheet of several Prudential realty agents who are willing to contribute their time.

On November 1, 1998, I was very impressed with the number of neighbors and Prudential agents who turned out to plant 400 donated bulbs.

Everyone was down on hands and knees, digging and planting as quickly as they could go. It was a delight to participate in this event and witness such community spirit.

If Duncan McDuffie were alive today, he would probably take great pride in seeing the community working together to bring back the lovely park he originally developed.

To participate in the Oak Park Weed Control Program, please contact Kim Habu at (510) 898-9441. See you at Oak Park.

**Gayle Tantau** is a top-producing Realtor and Marketing Specialist with Prudential California Realty in the Claremont/Piedmont office. Contact her at (510) 845-6021 or gayletantau@msn.com.



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## Doctor

FROM PAGE B4

It is a simple matter to loosen the nut, pull the probe out from its location next to the pilot light, and take it down to the hardware store to get another one just like it.

Then all that is needed is to reverse the procedure to install the new thermocouple and relight the pilot light. If the thermocouple was, indeed, the problem, this will allow you to turn the temperature control on and everything should work fine.

In the case of my client calling approximately 18 months after my finishing the most recent work on her house, which I might add, did not in-

volve the water heater — that was about four jobs back — this is exactly what she and her husband did. About an hour later, she called back to tell me that I was right about everything except one — the cost was not \$5, but \$5.73.

In short order, my client was able to save herself an extended loss of hot water and a big bill for replacing the water heater. I didn't have to leave my house, although I have been known to do so, and the problem was solved.

Contractors are like doctors — we want to fix what's wrong, and some are more willing to go out of their way for a small problem than others. Since there's no emergency room for broken houses, a house call or phone discussion might very likely save a good relationship. Some op-

erate on the "Call me Monday morning. You got a plumbing problem — let me send my plumber out for \$45 per hour and we'll take care of you" philosophy, but some don't.

If you own a home, at some point it is going to need work. Finding a good tradesperson or contractor who becomes your resource will most likely save you money and headaches over the long haul.

Don Pearman is a northern Califor-

nia contractor and author of *The Termit Report: How to Save Your Home from Pests, Rot and Earthquakes*. Address questions to 2001 Hoover Ave., Oakland, CA 94602, or e-mail dpearman@earthlink.net. Web site: [dpearman.com](http://dpearman.com).

Many rental yards offer a delivery service that will bring large pieces of equipment directly to a job site.

At most yards, you must leave a credit card or cash deposit before renting and sign a rental agreement that states that you'll pay if you damage the equipment.

"That's why it's important to look it over and see that it works," Cable said.

Besides renting tools and giving advice for a project, many yard managers find they're also trying to sell some confidence. "If I can help a homeowner tackle a project successfully by himself, he'll visit me again," Meek said.

"That's why I want to give him all the help I can."

## 'Unique Homes' taps Babington

Unique Homes

Jeri Lynn

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Residential Bro-

kerage,

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Unique Homes is a magazine spe-

cializing in luxury real estate.

Babington will be featured in

Unique Homes ninth annual 'elite

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stands.

The 'elite' edition identifies who

magazine editors believe is the best

in the business and gives subjects the

opportunity to present information

on themselves and their best listings.

According to Unique Homes,

Babington's presence in the direc-

tory is a reflection on her proven rep-

utation for excellence in the listing,

marketing and selling of premier

properties.

1999 marks Unique Homes' 28th

year of publication, reaching upscale

readers in all 50 states and in more

than 80 countries.

## Ellis

FROM PAGE B4

cup specifically designed for primary residences after tenants.

The court held that the city failed to do so as their intent was to go out of the rental market (which they had gone into) rather than chasing the building market. It was held that they formed a partnership for collecting such items as the majority of property taxes did not increase the incidence of a landlord-tenant relationship, which would have been a benefit of returning the units to the rental market.

Not all cases upheld the Ellis Act, however.

In 1990, Valence v. City of Berkeley, the court held that the Ellis Act applies to individual units and not to individual units within buildings.

More recently, in the case known as First Prestige Properties v. City of Berkeley, the court distinguished between the Ellis Act and the Rent Control Bd., held that the Ellis Act applies to individual units within buildings.

Robert Hayes is a real estate agent with Hayes and Ware Law, Inc. Hayes is a former real estate broker and UC Extension student in Real Estate Prof. (510) 763-7195 or e-mail Hayes\_Ware\_Law@msn.com

## Rental

FROM PAGE B3

scribe, it may be wise to pull out a camera in order to take pictures of the yard.

"When a customer brings a photograph of what they're attempting to do, that's a big help," Cable said. "I can point out exactly what tools they'll need, how to use them and how much time the job will take."

When you learn what you'll need and examine the tools and equipment, taking notes will help you do the job right. "As you're shown step by step how to start the motor, how to hold the tool, write down the instructions," Cable suggested. "Ask

the employee to start the equipment, and make sure you can use it before you leave."

Although anyone can rent a large or exotic construction tool, you may not be able to take home that backhoe as planned. "If the customer has never operated a sophisticated piece of equipment, we're not going to let them just jump on and take it away," Turkey said.

"If they don't have the strength or knowledge to use the tool, we'll help them find other ways to complete their project."

Depending on the tool, rentals can be arranged by the hour, day, week or month. When you describe your project, the staff should be able to help you estimate how long you'll need the tools.

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# SPORTS

VJ

April 1, 1999

Section C

**Softball** It's Opening Day for Albany-Berkeley girls softball [C2]**Basketball** Local players join Athletes for Peace [C3]

## St. Mary's softball gets big win over Piedmont

Defense the key in Panthers 2-1 victory

By Scott Strain

EL CERRITO — St. Mary's softball coach Casey Filson described it as a "big, big win."

It certainly was that. An unheralded Panthers squad defeated a strong Piedmont team 2-1 in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League opener for both teams at Park last Friday.

"This team (Piedmont) had beaten us badly last year," Filson said. "We worked hard and it paid off. They played good defense."

What St. Mary's (4-1-1, 1-0) had was solid pitching from freshman Mikka Vrankovich and good defense.

The Panthers made some errors, but not too many of them hurt. Vrankovich struck out only one batter, but relied on her defense, which made a spectacular play to pull her through.

"The defense played an amazing game today," Vrankovich said. "They (Piedmont) went for some pitches I didn't expect them to go for."

Said Filson: "All we ask Mikka do to is throw strikes, put the ball into play and have some faith in her defense. She did that and the other girls backed her up real well. We did just enough on the offensive side to win the game."

### Team goals

Filson is looking for improvement from his players and not necessarily concentrating on wins. If they get better, he said, those wins will come.

"I'm just taking this one game at a time," Filson said. "I'm not saying we're going to make the playoffs, I'm just happy to get any wins that we can. We want the girls to improve and if that happens, the wins will come along."

Vrankovich was helped by Piedmont's aggressiveness. She did not throw consistent strikes, but the Highlanders were swinging on the first or second pitch and Vrankovich didn't have to go deep into the pitch count. The Highlanders did a lot of popping up and grounding out.

St. Mary's made the most of its chances. Liz Spivey led off the second inning with a single to right. After Vrankovich struck out, Becky Waxman was safe on an error, and Spivey went to third.

Elizabeth Mullarkey struck out and Stacia Cluts hit a sharp grounder to second baseman Kerstie Mulligan. The ball went under Mulligan's glove and both Spivey and Waxman scored, giving the Panthers a 2-0 lead.

### Great play

The Panthers made a great play on a relay from the outfield to home plate to keep Piedmont off the board.

Highlander designated hitter Janine Durland was safe at second on an error and Joanne Panchana was sent in as a pinch runner. Nicole Kent popped a single to center, but Panchana was unable to advance. She did go to third when Alana Frost grounded to second for the first out.

The big play happened when PHS' Julie Skaff hit a high fly ball to St. Mary's center fielder Crissy Chavez. Panchana tried to score, but was thrown out at the plate on a relay from Chavez to Vrankovich to catcher Spivey.

Piedmont took the lead to 2-1 in the fourth when Megan Wardlaw was safe on an error and went to third on a double by Kristin Baker. Wardlaw scored on Samantha Platt's grounder to third. Baker took third on the play, but Vrankovich came up with her only strikeout of the game, fanning Mulligan on a swinging third strike.

Vrankovich held Piedmont to just one hit the rest of the way, which was good because Piedmont pitcher Courtney Gault, a four-year starter, gave up just four hits and struck out eight. She didn't walk a batter.

### Aggressive attitude

Filson wanted his team to be more aggressive in the later innings and told his hitters to swing at Gault's first or second pitch.

It almost resulted in a couple of runs in the fifth. Mullarkey lined a single to

See PANTHERS, Page C2

## Kensington's Kramer finds rowing gold

Oakland Strokes win rowing title at San Diego Classic

By Peter Mentor

Ben Kramer started rowing with the Oakland Strokes four years ago because he was out of shape and his friends were doing it.

It hasn't taken the Kensington resident long to get in shape and enjoy the ultimate success of the sport. That success came early in his rowing career.

In his second year rowing, the junior varsity eight team on which he rowed placed first at the San Diego Classic, one of the major races on the West Coast and in the United States in general.

Last year, Kramer moved up to the Strokes' varsity boat and the team of eight rowers and a coxswain won in the higher division at San Diego. That same team went on to win the state title. It also won silver medals at both the U.S. Youth National and the FISA World Junior races.

This past weekend, the defending champion Strokes went back to San Diego and claimed their second consecutive San Diego Classic crown on the 2,000-meter course. The team was pitted against some of the best competition in the U.S. and Canada.

Kramer, a senior at Head-Royce High School in Oakland, rowed in the seventh seat on a boat filled with rowers from around the East Bay. Joining him was Berkeley's James Gregg, a senior at Bishop O'Dowd High, who rowed in the third seat to help secure the gold medal.

The team is aiming to repeat as state champions in a race to be held May 7-8. A win or second-place finish at state would send the team to the National Championships in Cincinnati on June 6-7.

### Endurance training

The Strokes train in the Oakland Estuary, a nearly 7-mile-long expanse of water that allows the team to build its endurance.

A typical race for Oakland has the team in last place at the beginning be-



BEN KRAMER (right) shows off his medal with fellow Strokes rowers Morgan West (left) and Melisa Mowat (center).

KEVIN WASHBURN

fore building up steam and taking over at the midway point. The race at San Diego didn't go that way.

"Usually we are in last place at the start," said Kramer. "The body of water in which we train is limitless, so we do endurance training. As a result, we train not for the

beginning or the end, but for the middle."

After winning their heat and qualifying for the finals, the Strokes were given the second lane in the championship race. Oregon Unlimited of Eugene had a better time in its heat, so it got the first lane.

When the countdown for the final race

began the Strokes got ready and then busted out of the starting area.

Oakland was second only to Pacific of San Francisco, but the Strokes weren't worried about that team because they

See ROWING, Page C2

## Gauchos' winning streak snapped

El Cerrito boys volleyball now in second place

By Scott Strain

The El Cerrito boys volleyball team came into the match against Piedmont last Wednesday with a glittery 6-1 record in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League and a 6-2 mark overall.

In short, the Gauchos expected to do a lot better than they did against the Highlanders.

Except for the first game, El Cerrito didn't put up much of a fight, losing 15-13, 15-12, 15-10 at Piedmont.

The scores of the last two games were close, but Piedmont was in control the whole time.

"We were looking to pass better than we did," El Cerrito player Erythean Martin said. "I mean we should have done a lot better than that. We came in here and it just wasn't working — we weren't playing as a team. Our passing was really, really poor. It was pathetic how poor it was."

Martin expressed his respect for the Highlanders after the match.

"Piedmont is definitely one of the better teams we have played," he said. "They are really, really good. Except for today, we're playing well as a team."

### Strong start

El Cerrito came out at the start and dominated the first set, building leads of 6-2 and 10-5.

But the Highlanders, once they figured out what the Gauchos were doing,

righted themselves and scored eight of the last 10 points — including five straight at the end — to win the set.

Then the Highlanders started to roll. They went out to a 12-3 lead in the second set, only to see El Cerrito come back to within 14-12 before losing the final point.

In the third set, Piedmont got off to a 7-1 lead and kept it going. The closest the Gauchos came after that was 10-6 and 14-10. Despite the closeness of the score, the Highlanders never really were threatened.

### Oilers on top

Both El Cerrito and Piedmont have lost to Richmond; the Highlanders extending the Oilers to five sets, the Gauchos losing in the three. Which team is better?

"I don't know," El Cerrito coach Fred Gonzalez said. "We both have to play Richmond again in the second round. We didn't play well enough today to beat Piedmont. They looked really sharp. They had a lot of good things going for them; we just made a lot of critical mistakes at critical times."

Gonzalez said his team needed to improve on its passing and play better at clutch moments to win points and matches.

"Lee Cressey, our setter, played very well considering our terrible passing," said Gonzalez. "What we have to do to win is to pass better and serve better. At critical moments, when we were ahead, we missed three serves in a row in the first set. That could have won the set. Our confidence was shaken a little after that."

For El Cerrito, this, too, shall pass — and maybe it will play better the next time it plays Piedmont.



JOANNAHANDA

EL CERRITO'S Lee Cressey (6) tries to pound the ball past Piedmont's block during last Thursday's match at Piedmont High School.

## Albany-Berkeley Girls Softball League

By Michael Blake

Spring is surely here. The crack of the bat, the cheers of the crowd, and the whooshing sound of pigtails heading to first base gave us all the evidence we needed as the Albany Berkeley Girls Softball League launched their 1999 season last Saturday under glorious sunny skies.

### MICRO DIVISION

Andronico's vs. Salon Salon

In a rip-roaring debut game, the girls of Micro showed great skill and potential. Rya Shepard of Andronico's got the first hit and then made it home later to score the first run of the season for her team. Her teammate, Zoe Jansen, recorded the grocery team's first putout by executing a daring unassisted tag at home plate.

Salon Salon's Micaela Hahn had the honor of her team's first hit and hustled around the bases to nab their first run of the year. McKenzie Jacoby ended the game with a breathtaking RBI double for the stylish team.

### YOUNGER DIVISION

Prudential Mighty Ducks 8

James Painting and Decorating Generals 7

Though the sun shone radiantly on opening day at Fielding Field, it was eclipsed by the bright stars of the Mighty Ducks and the Generals.

The Mighty Ducks, clearly a team to watch, showed remarkable talent, energy, and spirit. Laura Cannon and Emily Radcliffe displayed their stuff in the top of the first inning, when they made an unprecedented three outs at first base.

In the second, Carolyn Thompson and Rachel Krow-Boniske made two more outs at first, and as if that wasn't enough, Joan Cannon and Nicole Presher followed suit in the third inning.

Lauren Waga opened the James Generals season with a leadoff smash up the middle and followed it up with three unassisted putouts in the field.

Kirsten Rapella followed her lead with a strong showing at the plate. Irene Farrimond made a dazzling play at shortstop, stopping a smash hit from turning into extra bases. Brittany ("Ed") Ernst showed the real ABGSL spirit by working hard to master the fundamentals of playing catcher for the first time.

### MIDDLE DIVISION

Nelson, Meyer, Ung Bandits 7

Prins Chiropractic Basebones 4

Even though it was opening day, these two teams played with mid-season poise and determination.

Early in the first, Sophie Kolding slammed the ball, scoring Anja Upstill for the Bandits' first run. Rachel Kahane then sprinted to third base on Kim Upstill's line-drive double and scored on a hit by Lauren O'Connor-Korb.

Backed by Sondra Firestein's swift move at shortstop, Daniela Kronenberg pitched a perfect third inning.

Pitcher Hannah Johnson excelled for the Basebones, getting the team's first hit of the year, fanning numerous sluggers, scooping a grounder to Simone Morris-Martin at first, and catching a high pop.

Sarah Leah Shor, in the first softball game of her career, struck out two batters, snatched a hard line drive, aggressively ran home from first on a vertebrae-crunching RBI-double by Sonja Prins, and deftly fielded a ground ball, throwing to Eileen Cullen at second base to end the game.

Davitt Felder Stamps Royals 4

Black, Brown, Lanier Litigators 2

In a close contest, the Royals bested the Litigators at La Loma Park in Berkeley.

In the first, the Litigators scored with a hit by Leana Petri that sent Teresa Goodman home.

At the top of the fourth, the Royals pulled ahead with a hard centerfield hit by Darcey Kurashige-Elliott. Darcey then scored off a bunt by Lara Kline. The Litigators came back with force at the bottom of the fourth with a home run by Olivia Beckley to tie the game.

The Royals' deciding edge came in the fifth, with runs by Amelia Kurashige-Elliott and Leila Walker. The game saw great plays by Litigators' pitcher Lisa Richardson and catcher Emma Riley and hits by Alyse Muller and Mary Pinto.

Nolo Sharks 4

Autumn Press All Stars 1

The Sharks took an early lead but the outcome was in doubt until the end as the Sharks never led by more than three.

The All Stars, despite having both practices rained out this week, showed good pitching, but could not put together a convincing rally in the five-inning game. The Sharks were not true to their name, nibbling away rather than feasting off the All Stars.

Sierra Bradley drove in the Sharks' first run of the season on a hard hit grounder to short, scoring Anna Kalkanis-Ellis. But Monika Chan made a nice catch of a sharp liner at first to quiet the Sharks.

In the second, the Sharks brought eight batters to the plate. Emily Silverstein, Nikita Goodno, and Sarah Dobensky all had singles to the left side.

Mary Katherine Morrison brought in Silverstein, and Alyse Ritvo drove in Goodno to put the Sharks up 3-0.

Amanda Hansen at first and Ari Usher at short made nice plays for the All Stars to keep the scoring down.

Both teams were scoreless in the third, thanks especially to stellar defensive plays by Paige Freiberger at first for the Sharks and Rachel Kucera at pitcher for the All Stars.

The All Stars got on the scoreboard in the fourth when Hannah Lyman was hit by a pitch and came in on

Hansen's double.

Xinet Zippers 10

Vivian Lopez Mighty Molars 0

The Zippers exhibited great batting, beginning and ending the game with a string of hits.

The game got off to an exciting start with Lauren Lopez of the Mighty Molars getting the first hit of the season. Phoebe White demonstrated her strong pitching by holding the Molars scoreless. Rookie Molly Fall of the Zippers got a hit in her first time at bat and the Zippers scored three runs in the first inning.

Two Molars pitchers were standouts: Mariko Conner, who also made a great catch of a popup, and Lopez, who has an amazing fastball.

But the pitching of White and Anya Graetch of the Zippers was too formidable for the Molars. Although there were nine Molar hits, the Zippers' pitching and fielding were able to keep them from scoring, and the Zippers ended the game with a convincing 10-0 victory.

Star batters of the Zippers included Lil Woods-Kridle, Christina Skonberg, and Zoe Thiele-Seidenberg.

Jeff Cohen Electric Sparkles 13

Jesse Young Construction Angels 8

With two hits and two RBIs in the second, Anna Harris led the offense for Jeff Cohen Electric's Sparkles.

In the third inning, Michelynn Morris hit a short ball along the first base line. When she hustled to second, Morris advanced two runners home.

Fielders for Jesse Young Construction's Angels allowed only four batters to the plate in the first, and in the fourth, pitcher Elena Sexton snagged a short infield fly, diving with her glove on the dirt for a great putout.

The Angels' sluggers included Margo Winton, who hit a triple in the first and a double in the third; and Jenna Starkey, who drove a double to left field in the second.

Rivka Cohen and Hannah Badal both pitched two innings for the Sparkles, holding the Angels to four runs each.

### OLDER DIVISION

Red Oak Realty 16

Hans Stahlschmidt 10

Red Oak's Aron Feingold registered the game's first RBI with a first-inning hit that drove in Laelena Brooks. Sarah Cunningham, who did a great job at pitcher, followed with a powerful homer to right.

In the bottom of the first, Vanessa Pratt of Hans Stahlschmidt homered with Sarah Ludwig on base. Elise Priewe hit a solid single.

Both teams were scoreless in the third, thanks especially to stellar defensive plays by Paige Freiberger at first for the Sharks and Rachel Kucera at pitcher for the All Stars.

The All Stars got on the scoreboard in the fourth when Hannah Lyman was hit by a pitch and came in on

Kramer said the team has rowed that same distance a minute faster, but the time was good for the conditions.

"It was a really windy day," said Kramer. "The water was really choppy. At the times were posted. In the end our times were competitive with college freshmen times."

Kramer may be happy to know that his team's win at the race in the junior varsity boat two years ago started a trend.

The Strokes junior varsity made it three in a row. The team had to overtake a strong St. Ignatius crew in the last 250 meters to get the three-peat.

Included on that winning junior varsity boat was Kensington's Stephen Bathurst, who rowed in the fifth seat. Bathurst is also a student at Head-Royce.

Forced Mullarkey at third and the rally ended when Gault struck out Regina Garcia.

Spivey singled to center in the sixth, but was stranded.

Frankovich gave up a hit to Durand in the top of the seventh with two out, but got Kent to ground out to short to end the game.

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# Lessons from Lima

A journey to South America gives perspective

By Mike McGreehan

For many in this country, a sport doesn't exist unless it's dominated by U.S.-born athletes.

These fair-weather fans just don't know what they're missing.

I'm a big fan of international soccer, you see. Especially soccer.

I was in the '80s, for instance, I

watched the exploits of soccer stars Platini (France), Zico (Brazil)

Karl-Heinz Rummenigge (West

Germany) just as fervently as I did

of Mike Schmidt or Jim Rice.

I was a journalist, I would rather

a World Cup, Tour de France

or Hours of LeMans than any

NFL Series or Super Bowl.

I got a small taste of sports in another country when I visited Peru with my wife and son.

Peru, I can hear some of you now,

aren't a typical sporting country,

say. And what impact has it had

on the international sports

you ask.

Admittedly, Peru is not exactly a

international sports powerhouse.

It is nowhere close to dominating

the soccer scene of its own continent,

but it is overshadowed by teams

from Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Colombia

and Uruguay. Still, Peruvians love

soccer isn't the only sport Peruvians love.

Lima's primary newspaper

"El Comercio," also runs

many stories about horses, mo-

tor sports, track and field and

volleyball.

There's also surfing, as the Beach Boys mentioned in their song "Surfin' U.S.A."

I arrived in Lima a little more than a week before the national soccer season ended. Even though we were to attend many matches, I decided to catch some — both foreign and domestic — on television.

I'll admit that the main purpose for going to Peru was not to see the sporting life there. My wife Anna is originally from Lima; and our son George and I were there to visit her parents and other relatives during the Holidays.

To that extent, the trip was most enjoyable.

Occasionally, though, I would get

tempting to keep tabs on what was

going on up here.

That could get frustrating. Giuliana's parents had neither cable nor Internet. And we didn't always have time to visit a relative who did.

Furthermore, international newspapers were hard to find. I was uncomfortable with the feeling of being uninformed.

Also, there wasn't an awful lot of talk about sports. Maybe it was because of the Holidays and the fact that soccer was on its offseason break.

Still, a drive by the beach or any open space (there aren't many of those in Lima, unfortunately), would reveal much sporting activity: pickup soccer, volleyball and even basketball games.

People on bikes were a common sight in some parts of the city, especially by the beach in the Miraflores district. Oh, and a lot of kids had inline skates — kind of like here.

Not so long ago, it seemed, Peru boasted such soccer stars as Hector Chumpitaz, Teófilo "Nene" Cubillas and Cesar Cuetos. But that was then.

Peru's national soccer team hasn't qualified for a World Cup since 1982. Today, Peruvian soccer fans are banking their hopes on such stars as Nolberto Solano, Roberto Palacios and up-and-comer Roberto Silva. But Peruvians aren't holding their breath.

Soccer, of course, isn't the only sport feeling the pinch in Peru. The country's most recent noteworthy accomplishment on the international sports scene was a silver medal in women's volleyball at the 1988 Seoul Olympics. El Comercio recalled the 10-year-old feat in one of its December issues.

Despite its current problems, Peru holds the promise of a better future.

The country seems to be in a rebuilding mode and those who live there say the quality of life has improved greatly the past few years.

These changes should have a positive effect on sports as well. Some of those effects are already being felt.

While riding through Lima, for instance, I saw something called a "volleyball institute" — a school where young players go to learn the game.

We have no such place here in the United States, where, by the way, the sport was actually invented.

President Alberto Fujimori and his ministers are doing their best to address the situation. Currently, they're trying to make the place more attractive to tourists. Of course, the country offers much to see and enjoy.

Just one thing — a little Inca Kola would taste great right now.

Still, everything in Peru seems fine.

## PLANNING COMMISSION Public Hearing Notice APRIL 14, 1999 — and — CITY COUNCIL Public Hearing Notice APRIL 20, 1999

### NOTICE THAT THE CITY OF BERKELEY WILL CONSIDER A MAJOR AMENDMENT TO THE BAYER DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT

### & NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Bayer Corporation, 800 Dwight Way has applied for the First Major Amendment to their Development Agreement. The specific amendments requested are to adjust permitted square feet and location of uses on the site, without increasing the overall maximum square footage, to allow for the maximum employment of approximately 1600 employees and to revise the design guidelines to provide a sense of activity of Seventh Street.

An Environmental Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration has been prepared pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and is available for public review until April 14, 1999 at the Berkeley Main Library, 2121 Alston Way and at the City of Berkeley, Current Planning Division Office, 2120 Milvia Street, Berkeley, CA 94704.

A public hearing on the Major Amendment to the Development Agreement and to adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration will be held at the April 14, 1999 Planning Commission meeting. Planning Commission meetings are held at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst Avenue, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

A public hearing on the Major Amendment will be held at the April 20, 1999 City Council meeting. City Council meetings are held in Council Chambers, 2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley, beginning at 7 p.m.

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# Hoopsters seek to play for peace

By Tom Lochner

BERKELEY — Fresh from their flirtation with a state championship, El Cerrito High School basketball stars Andrew Gooden and Jovan Harris already have a game lined up for spring.

If their sponsor, Berkeley-based Athletes United for Peace, can raise the money, then Gooden and Harris, along with Berkeley High's Perry Pugh and Kaylin Thornton and others, will travel to Europe as ambassadors of peace.

"We're going to use basketball as a way to exchange cultures," said Gooden, the senior center for a Gauchos team that lost to Washington Union-Fresno in the Northern California Division III championship.

### Hook shots for peace

Their arena will be Peacebuilders 2000, an international conference in The Hague, Netherlands, May 10-15. Just as the U.N. wants warring nations to beat swords into plowshares, Athletes United for Peace, or AUP, wants the world's youths to throw hook shots instead of left hooks.

"Basketball would be like a tool to where we could get along," said Gooden.

"We just use basketball as our lure," said Doug Harris, executive director of AUP. "It's a universal sport that the majority of young people seem to enjoy."

It runs late-night basketball and video production programs in Berkeley and academic and sports camps around the East Bay. Internationally, it has supported events such as the Goodwill Games and the Moscow Peace Marathon and an exchange program with Nicaragua's baseball team.

European nations are seeing heavy immigration and social unrest and are struggling with new multicultural identities.

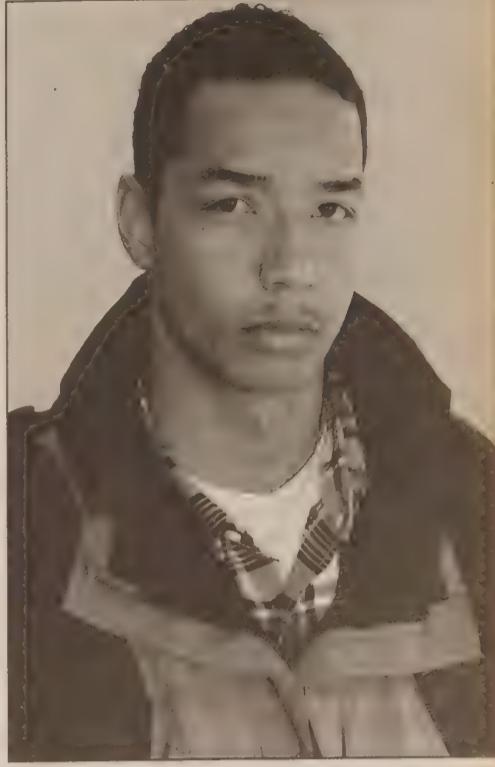
At the conference, "these different mayors and city officials will get a chance to hear from our young people," said Doug Harris. "We lead the world in youth violence. Who better to hear from about this problem than the inner-city youth of America?"

In return, the teens will see dignitaries such as U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, South African Bishop Desmond Tutu and actor-activist Peter Ustinov.

### Late-night hoops

One thing those dignitaries might want to look at, said Gooden, is late-night basketball.

"It's something that can isolate kids from the badness and the violence of the street," he said.



EL CERRITO senior Andrew Gooden joins teammate Jovan Harris in Berkeley's Perry Pugh and Kaylin Thornton in Athletes for Peace.

Doug Harris, who played basketball for Berkeley High School and worked as a recreation program coordinator for Richmond, concedes that selling American hoops as a peacemaker is no slam dunk.

But Harris said images of American Olympians insulting opponents, coaches heaving chairs across the court, trash talking and the like aren't the real story of the game.

"(In) the media, the first sound bite you hear is 'fight.' Then you see the highlights," he said. "Our society has become entertained by violence, and it has trickled down to our young people."

At Athletes United for Peace, Harris said, "We want to get back to the old values, the old qualities of sportsmanship."

**"Basketball would be like a tool to where we could get along"**

— Andrew Gooden

**SPRING '99**

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# Arts

## EVENTS

### Dances from Kosovo and Macedonia

On Tuesday April 6 the Ashkenaz Music and Dance Center, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents an evening of traditional Romani (gypsy) dances from Kosovo and Macedonia. At 7:30 p.m. the dances will be taught by Djevira Rifati, a resident of Pristina, along with her son Sani Rifati and his wife, Carol Bloom. A dance party will follow at 9 p.m. with music by the Balkan group Edessa. Handmade crafts from Kosovo will be available for purchase. Details: 525-5099.

### Wednesday Jazzschool concert

On Wednesday, April 7, at 8 p.m. pianist will perform solo in the first of the Jazzschool's new Wednesday night concerts, presented at La Note Restaurant, 2375 Shattuck Ave. in Berkeley. Admission: \$12 general, \$10 students/seniors, \$6 for Jazzschool students and children 12 and under. Reservations (recommended): 845-5373.

### Prometheus Symphony Orchestra

The Prometheus Symphony Orchestra's next concert with featured soloist Dorinda Chase is Sunday, April 11, at 3 p.m. at Saint Ambrose Church, 1145 Gilman St. in Berkeley. Admission to the concert is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

Dorinda Chase received her bachelor's degree from the Indiana University School of Music and a master's from Duquesne University. She studied clarinet with Bernard Cerilli and chamber music with Bernard Goldberg of the Pittsburgh Symphony; currently she teaches instrumental music and directs the honor band in the Pleasanton school district.

Gerald Finzi's (1901-1956) obvious love for the deep-hued tones of the clarinet is apparent in the Five Bagatelles, with their variety of moods, fresh melodic invention and idiomatic writing for the clarinet, the Bagatelles quickly became Finzi's most popular composition.

Charles Ives' Second Symphony reflects the transition between the late-Romantic idiom in which he was trained, and the radically experimental compositions he began afterwards. It shows Ives' easy grasp of late-nineteenth-century symphonic form as well as affluent mastery of contrapuntal writing. On the other hand, it is Ives' first large-scale use of musical quotations as an integral element in formal design. Prominently used in all five movements, the mixture of such tunes as "Turkey in the Straw," "Camptown Races," "Columbia the Gem of the Ocean," "America the Beautiful," and others give the work its unmistakably American color.

### "Rock for Julia" benefit for Morgan Theatre

On April 2 the Julia Morgan Center for the Arts is holding "Rock For Julia," a benefit musical event to help the center and theater in its ongoing battle to stay financially afloat.

The Julia Morgan Theatre was built around the 1900s and was originally used as a church. It was converted to a theatre in the late 1980s and currently hosts performances of the Berkeley Opera and the Berkeley Ballet Theatre among others.

The event will be held Friday, April 2 at 8 p.m. in the Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave.

A sampling of the finest in East Bay local music featuring funky headliners "Tang," pop/rockers "World Record," Stevie Wonder cover band "Wonderland," and hard '70s rockers "Flange." The cost is \$5.

### Internet and artists' legal issues

ACCI Gallery presents a lecture "Internet Legal Issues for Visual Artists" by Guy Stilson of California Lawyers for the Arts on April 16 from 6:30-8 p.m.

ACCI Gallery is located at 1652 Shattuck Avenue in Berkeley.

Mr. Stilson, an attorney, will discuss points artists should know when using the web to promote, sell and distribute their work. Topics include legal points of copyright, sales and contracts, as well as business issues of web marketing and distribution.

The cost is \$5 for CLA and ACCI members and \$15 for the general public.

### "Whose Millennium?"

"Whose Millennium? Theirs or Ours" is the topic of an interview with author Daniel Singer on Saturday, April 17 at 7:30 p.m. and will be held at King Middle School, 1781 Rose St. Singer is the European correspondent for "The National Magazine Whose Millennium?" is his forthcoming book from Monthly Review Press. He is also author of "Prelude to Revolution (1970), "The Road to Gdansk (1981)" and "Is Socialism Doomed? The Meaning of Mitterrand (1988)." He will be interviewed by Larry Bensky, host of

Pacifica Radio's national weekend current affairs program, "Sunday Salon." He writes news and analysis for numerous journals nationwide and has been Pacifica's public affairs correspondent for many years. Tickets: \$10 advance, \$12 at the door. Available at (East Bay) Black Oak, Cody's, Telegraph, Cody's 45th Street, Diesel, Pegasus/Solano, Pegasus/Shattuck, Pendragon, Walden Pond (SF) City Lights, and Modern Times. This will benefit KPFA, Middle East Children's Alliance, Monthly Review Foundation, Democratic Socialists of America USA, Committees of Correspondence, Solidarity, and Nation Associates. Details: 548-0542.

### Depression, healing and transformation

Berkeley Public Library hosts an exhibit of 14 black-and-white art photographs and poems designed to help change ideas about depression. "Depression: A Visual Journal of Healing and Transformation" is a collaboration by Ann Keiffer and John Keiffer, Bay Area artists who are mother and son. The exhibit, nominated for a national Eli Lilly award, brings out the transforming possibilities of depression. The artists say their work "is a respectful honoring of both the suffering of depression and the deep and unexpected healing that can come from it."

The exhibit, which coincides with National Poetry Month, is located at the new temporary site for the Central Library at 2121 Allston Way, downtown Berkeley, between Shattuck and Oxford. (The temporary site, situated just a block-and-a-half from the original building, will operate until renovation and expansion of the landmark library is completed in two years.) The exhibit opens on Sunday and runs through Friday, April 30.

The exhibit is funded by Peninsula Community Foundation and is sponsored by Mental Health Association of San Mateo County with support from San Mateo Mental Health Services Division. It can be viewed at Berkeley Public Library during open hours: Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. until 9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. and Sundays from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. Details: 644-6100.

### Lawrence Hall of Science

Special programs at the Lawrence Hall of Science:

\* "Faery Tales," April 3 and April 10, 12:30 p.m., 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. TEAM! Theatre presents stories based on family health issues.

\* "Backyard Monsters" Live demonstrations, through June 6. Learn what makes an insect an insect, whether all bugs are insects, and where arachnids fit in. Monday through Friday, 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, noon, 1 p.m., 2 p.m. and 3 p.m. Free with admission. "Backyard Monsters" Family Activities, through June 6 Saturday and Sunday, noon to 2 p.m. Learn more about insects through a variety of fun hands-on activities. Free with admission.

Hal admission: \$6 general; \$4 seniors, students and children ages 7 to 18; \$2 children ages 3 to 6 free; children under age 3. Daily 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Centennial Drive, UC Berkeley. Details: 642-5132.

### Fun at Tilden

On April 4 at 10 a.m. come look for signs of spring as you hike the hills and learn about Eostre and her bunny companion.

Adams Concert, a performance of Israeli music, takes place at 2 p.m.

The events are free. To get to Tilden take Canon Drive off Grizzly Peak Boulevard, Berkeley. Details: 525-2233.

### Upcoming at Cal Performances

Cal Performances is offering an eclectic lineup for April, beginning with the avant-garde "Monsters of Grace" (April 13-17 at UC-Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall), a new multimedia opera based on the poetry of 13th century Sufi mystic Rumi and featuring the music of Philip Glass. Pianist Murray Perahia performs a program of Bach, Beethoven and Schubert in an April 11 recital at Zellerbach Hall, and pianist Stephen Kovacevich performs Beethoven and Schubert in two recitals in Hertz Hall (April 18 and 25). And on April 16, France's renowned Ensemble Intercontemporain comes to Hertz Hall. Founded by Pierre Boulez, this group of 31 soloists has a repertoire of more than 1,400 works; conducted by David Robertson, they'll play music by Boulez and Gyorgy Ligeti. For tickets, call the Cal Performances box office at 642-9988.

### Impact Theatre

Impact Theatre presents "Lackaday" by Zay Amsbury through April 24. In the near future a domestic war against terrorism has reduced the

## BHS orchestra ready for gala spring concert

By Mick Arellano

The Berkeley High School Concert Orchestra will present its gala spring concert on Friday, April 30th, at 7:30 p.m. This year's extravaganza will be held in the grand Berkeley Community Theater on the Berkeley High School campus. Admission prices are \$4 for adults, and \$1 for students. Children 12 and under are admitted free.

The 1999 spring concert will be the orchestra's first performance in decades at the 3000-seat Berkeley Community Theater, one of the largest community theaters in the western United States. The beautiful art deco styled theater was constructed during the 1940s and is today one of Berkeley's finest architectural treasures.

This year's gala orchestral event will feature an exciting mix of old and new music. The program will include some dazzling modern sketches and interpretive works, as well as more traditional masterpieces by Bach, Rossini, and Tchaikovsky. Students, parents, teachers, and the general public are cordially invited to attend.

The April 30 concert will also feature a guest performance by Theresa Saunders, the school's new principal, who will sit in with the cello section on a rousing symphonic version

of the "William Tell Overture."

This year's spring festival is a fundraiser for the orchestra. Karen Wells, Berkeley High's tireless orchestra conductor, would like to acquire a few more instruments for her students to use in the classroom and at concerts.

"Ticket prices for this special spring concert were set with the idea of making it a benefit, with new instruments being the goal," Wells said recently. "The target sections right now are percussion and large strings. I have three kids who want to play bass, but only two basses. And we really need a snare drum, and a new timpani."

Berkeley High School's Concert Orchestra boasts 60 current members, more than twice the membership of a few years ago when music programs throughout the school district suffered bureaucratic neglect and the threat of extinction. Today the BHS orchestra, like other Berkeley Unified School District music programs, thrives in large part because of dedicated teachers, generous parent volunteers, friendly support organizations, and a host of determined student musicians who simply won't take no for an answer.

The 60 teenagers in the BHS orchestra are an unusually energetic bunch. They rise early each weekday morning and will sit in with the cello section on a rousing symphonic version

of the "William Tell Overture." This year's spring festival is a fundraiser for the orchestra. Karen Wells, Berkeley High's tireless orchestra conductor, would like to acquire a few more instruments for her students to use in the classroom and at concerts.

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## vents

PAGE C4

States to a rural economy under law. of an infamous terrorist, and awaiting his execution, man into question by the arrival of its owner love. \$10 general; \$5 student. Friday and Saturday, 8 p.m. at 16th Street Studio, 2525 Eighth Street, Berkeley. Details: 464-4468.

## parents tales

Berkeley presents "Keeping and Other Grandparents Tales" on Sunday at First Congregational Church, 2501 Harrison Street. This adaptation of Falco's tale of cherishing a passed down through four generations, features a cast ranging in age from nine to 75. An ice cream follows each performance. \$8 adults, \$4 children, includes play and refreshments. Reservations: 444-4755.

## Second Man

Theatre Company presents "The Second Man," through April 11, the story of a love quad set in New York, 1928, in Shorey's West Side apartment. Performances are 8 p.m. Wednesday and Saturday; 2 and 7 p.m. Sunday at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Allston Ave., Berkeley. Tickets: \$22-\$25. Details: 843-4822.

## in concert

Berkeley Symphony performs at Zellerbach Hall, with guest Kasimierez Olechowski, master of the Lyon Opera Orchestra, as soloist for Karol Szymanowski's Violin Concerto. Music by Kent Nagano, who was re-appointed conductor of Berlin's Das Symphonie Orchestra (he leads Vladimir Ashkenazy), will be performed at the end of Bruckner's Symphony No. 9. 510-841-2800.

## Music Sundaes

umber Music Sundaes presents from the San Francisco Symphony in works by Ravel, Debussy and How on April 4, and by Tchaikovsky and Britten on April 10, both at Berkeley's St. John's Church (415-584-5946).

## Concerts premieres local

Berkeley Symphony's Under the Sun program showcases music by some of the Bay Area's leading composers. On April 10, John's Presbyterian Church, College Ave. in Berkeley, you'll see sections of new works by Garner, Javier Arau and a to be announced, being for the first time. The music is at 7 p.m., and the event is free. #841-2800.

## musical at Black Rep

Black Repertory Group, 3201 Franklin Street, Berkeley, presents a comedy "Better Unwed Than Single Said." Fleeing her home young girl takes a chance and finds security in the big city. In a coffin factory to survive, covers more than empty cases for sale. Trapped between hungry underworld figures and closing in, she risks her life at home. An "old school" actress accompanies this dynamic play. The producers say this "hit" featuring music from "will keep you groovin' while you have movin'." Showtimes are Thursday, Friday, Saturday through April 24. There will be a Saturday matinee at 2:30 p.m. \$52-\$2120. Ask about our discounts and group rates.

## ness and terror

"Wings Against the Sky" is a modern opera circling the globe, with only one terror for companionship, the Repertory Theatre's second annual Season production this year. The production continues in a run through April 4 at the Schwimley Little Theatre, Allston Way at Martin Luther King Way. \$24.50 and \$35, depending on the day of the week (\$19.50 for students, \$12.25-\$14.75 for Hot Tubs). To charge tickets by phone, MasterCard or Discover, Berkeley Rep Box Office at 510-841-2120. Ask about our discounts and group rates.

## reading

lunch Poems Reading Series

**APRIL 5-9**

**YMCA**  
**Splash**  
Teaching kids and families

We build strong kids  
strong families  
strong communities

presents award-winner Marie Howe today from 12:10 to 1 p.m. in the Lipman Room on the eighth floor of Barrows Hall on the UC Berkeley campus. Former U.S. Poet Laureate and current UC Professor Robert Hass will introduce. Admission is free.

Marie Howe's long-awaited second collection of poetry, "What the Living Do," has been praised for its unflinching poems, which arrive at deeply-held personal, social, and psychological truths by refusing to turn away from the transformative power of grief.

The 1998-99 Lunch Poems Reading Series will conclude on May 6 with its annual student reading featuring prize-winning poets at UC Berkeley. Details: 642-0137.

## Spring Revels

The Hanes Family presents "Spring Revels" on Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Freight & Salvage Coffehouse, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley.

Five unrelated family members return to the Freight & Salvage for another evening of "world mountain-music" and fictional family lore. Combining music with folksy performance art, tonight they'll celebrate the coming of spring and its regenerative powers, offering up a "revival" meeting and inviting long-departed family members to join in the carousing round the maypole. Rutherford B., Lee Harvey, Burl, Lurline and Woleen Hanes play guitar, string bass, mandolin and sing in rich harmonies, mixing old-timey, folk, and country-western songs with originals and traditional tunes from around the world. Vocalist Catherine Rose Crowther and other special guests will join them. Tickets: \$13.50 advance / \$14.50 door. Details: 548-1761.

## Concert for the Birds

The UC Alumni Chorus Spring Concert featuring the UCCE Madrigal Singers and a premier performance of Kirke Mechem's Choral Cycle Winging Wildly will take place on Sunday, April 11, at 7 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, Dana and Duran streets in Berkeley.

Tickets will be available at the door and are \$12 for general admission and \$8 for students, seniors and handicapped. To order tickets or for more information, please call the UC Choral Ensembles at 643-9645, or send your check payable to UCAC, 51 Cesar Chavez Center, #4280, Berkeley, CA 94720-4280.

## New series at Morgan Theatre

The Julia Morgan Theater 2640 College Ave. now hosts a weekly series featuring ballroom dance, jazz and comedy. Comedy Night is at 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Swing Dancing at 7:30 p.m. (free lessons) followed by dancing to a live band at 8:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. The series opened March 2 and 3 and will continue for the foreseeable future, organizers say. Young and old are welcomed. The atmosphere is friendly and informal and there is a new dance floor at the Julia. Comedy night is fueled by young comics who usually appear Sunday Night at the Punch Line in San Francisco. There will also be a variety of music on Comedy night.

Since January there have been dance lessons and dancing for pre-teens and teens from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Julia Morgan, and the same for adults from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Swing, salsa, fox-trot, and other dances are skillfully taught to the beginner and experienced dancer under the leadership of the San Francisco Dance Theater School. First lessons are free. Details: 883 7007.

"Wings Against the Sky" is a modern opera circling the globe, with only one terror for companionship, the Repertory Theatre's second annual Season production this year. The production continues in a run through April 4 at the Schwimley Little Theatre, Allston Way at Martin Luther King Way. \$24.50 and \$35, depending on the day of the week (\$19.50 for students, \$12.25-\$14.75 for Hot Tubs). To charge tickets by phone, MasterCard or Discover, Berkeley Rep Box Office at 510-841-2120. Ask about our discounts and group rates.

Known for eloquently addressing social issues through her music "Motherlight" reflects her experience as a parent "grappling with modern social, spiritual and environmental issues."

The Plowshares is at 2398 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. The suggested donation is \$5. The doors will open

at 7 p.m. Coffee and desserts will be available. Details: 549-1244.

## Easter Bunny at Children's Fairyland

The Easter Bunny hops into Children's Fairyland from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on April 3 and April 4. She will paint faces and play with visiting children. Visitors will also be able to pet Fairyland's own bunnies and other animals. Special activities include bunny and Easter egg arts and crafts from noon to 3 p.m., special bunny performance on the Emerald City Stage at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

The puppet show, "The Gingerbread Boy," will be presented at 1 p.m., 2 p.m., and 4 p.m.

Park admission is \$5 and includes unlimited Fairyland rides. Children under age 1 are admitted without charge. For information call 452-2259 or visit the Web site at [www.fairyland.org](http://www.fairyland.org)

## Easter Bunny at Jack London Square

A very special bunny and some very large horses are coming to Jack London Square in Oakland Easter weekend, April 3 and 4. First on Saturday, April 3 from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., just for the kids, a special bunny is coming to pay a visit during the annual Easter Extravaganza activities. Kids can get their picture taken for free with the Easter Bunny on the Pavilion stage from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Next, hop on over to the crafts center to make Easter decorations and meet the Easter Bunny's real fury friends in the petting zoo. Plus, the kids can take a free pony ride along the water's edge. All of this Easter fun takes place on the Pavilion at the foot of Broadway from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Last year, for instance, more than a half-million people visited a Monet show in Boston, correspondent Susan Stemberg reported recently on National Public Radio. Total attendance at Impressionist exhibitions across the country approached 1 million, and Monet is considered "the museum world's box-office champion," the New York Times reported. Stemberg calls it "America's love affair with Impressionism."

And it's not just the love of sun-dappled gardens and dreamy lily ponds. The exhibition of French snowscapes titled "Impressionists in Winter: Effets de Neige" is drawing viewers who aren't regular museum visitors to San Francisco's Yerba Buena Center for the Arts. It continues through May 2.

Now the familiar settings of the West take the spotlight with "All Things Bright & Beautiful," an exhibition of 58 paintings by California Impressionists which went on display last weekend at the Oakland Museum of California. The paintings from the Irvine Museum, by artists who lived and worked in California

Admission is free to the public. One hour free parking with validation. Jack London Square is accessible by BART, the Alameda/Oakland ferry service or AC Transit. Details: 814 6000.

## "Little Me" at Masquers

The Masquers Playhouse of Point Richmond on Friday, April 2 will present Broadway's latest hit musical revival "Little Me" starring Judy Ra Whiting. The play is from the book by Neil Simon, and music and lyrics are by Cy Coleman and Carolyn Leigh. Director is George Johnson, musical director Pat King, choreographer Kris Bell, set designer Linda Ellinwood, costumer Carola Pallor (with World War I uniforms from Warner Bros.). Hollywood legend, Belle Poitrine (Judy Rae Whiting) looks back on her young buxom self (Susan Sarandon) and her hilarious climb from small town notoriety to international acclaim, and the many, many men who were only too glad to help her (all played by the exciting new actor, John Blyth). Opening April 2 and playing every Friday and Saturday night at 8 p.m. through May 15 with Sunday matinees on April 11 and 25, and on May 2 and 9 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12. For reservations call 232-4031, with discounts for 25 or more. Masquers Playhouse is located at 105 Park Place, Point Richmond.

## Fire

FROM PAGE C4

in Ashland, so it may be familiar to many Bay Area theatergoers.

But even if you've seen the show before, it is certainly worth another look, since the explosive family is so entertaining, and Garrett-Groag's idea of revisiting her youth as an adult is such an appealing one.

She has made the adult narrator a vital part of the show, and an interesting theatrical device, since the grown Lise is allowed to interact with the characters of her past, to clarify details that may not have been observed or understood by the 7-year-

## Impressionism still blooms bright and beautiful

By Robert Taylor

One of the first major exhibitions of Impressionist art in California took place in Golden Gate Park in 1894, in the Midwinter Fair building that would later become the de Young Museum.

There were Monet, Renoir, Pissarro and Sisley paintings from the collection of Mrs. William H. Crocker, and the fair's administrator, John A. Stanton, was impressed. He was dazzled by the atmosphere and color Monet's landscapes, but he wasn't sure they would catch on with the public.

"The work may not be appreciated or understood by the masses," Stanton wrote.

Stanton needn't have worried. The masses caught up with Impressionism in a big way as 105 years of art auctions, blockbuster touring shows, slick calendars and refrigerator magnets reveal.

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Camp Jones Gulch, June 14-18

Explore the sandy shore, streams, grassy fields, and groves of ancient redwood trees, using field biology techniques to learn about the local wildlife. A highlight of this campus is a trip to Año Nuevo State Reserve, in search of 18-foot elephant seals. Camp life is complete with swimming, crafts, campfires, stargazing, storytelling, and beach combing at Camp Jones Gulch in the Santa Cruz Mountains, about 10 miles from the San Mateo Coast.

Sierra Backpacking, Ages 11-15

Tahoe National Forest Grouse Ridge, July 11-16

Backpack in and around Grouse Ridge, a hidden gem with majestic granite peaks and clear alpine lakes,

old version of Lise.

The character is also an interesting physical device, especially at the beginning of the play which, fascinating as it is, is far too long at three hours when a colorfully dressed adult Lise moves onto the stage with the other characters, who are all in shades of black, white and gray, like images from an old photo album. Then, as the memories become more intense and vivid, the characters move into a sharper and more colorful form.

Director Jack O'Brien has enhanced the theatricality of the piece, a co-production with San Diego's Old Globe, and created a memorable and fiery piece of magic.

## 'ALL THINGS BRIGHT &amp; BEAUTIFUL'

"All Things Bright & Beautiful" continues through May 30 at the Oakland Museum of California, 10th and Oak streets in downtown Oakland, one block from the Lake Merritt BART station. Hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Friday, noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. Admission is \$6 for adults, \$4 seniors and students, free for children 5 and under. Friday after 5 p.m., admission is free. Call 888-625-6873.

between 1890 and 1930, continues through May 30.

Why is this century-old technique still so popular with the public? Why are painting factories still turning out rain-drenched Paris street scenes for budget-priced consumption? And how do gallery owners, artists and museum curators explain Impressionism's current boom?

Impression was not just romantic scenery when it was new - it was modern art, an experimental technique for painting light and movement.

"As other modernist styles became popular, particularly among artists, that put Impressionism in somewhat of an eclipse," explains Harvey Jones, the Oakland Museum's curator of the exhibition. "There was Cubism, Fauvism, Surrealism, any number of isms. But the public did not necessarily follow with those so-called advancements."

"They stuck with Impressionism because it was not a radical departure from pictorialism; the paintings were pretty and recognizable. The painters were doing something rather analytical with the landscapes, with broken color, the effect of sunlight on humble material. But the public tended to romanticize those colorful images and accept them

more at face value.

"It was the last modernism" that was easily accessible," Jones says. "And if you're not the kind of person who usually goes to museums, it's a kind of risk-free foray into the museum world."

Victoria Richardson, director of the Danville Fine Arts gallery, suggests that Impressionism "takes a viewer to another realm. It's not just reproducing what was there; it shows more depth and more feeling than realism."

"To the artist, it is appealing because he is able to translate what he sees so the vision is purely his," she says. "It's not a snapshot. It's like a snapshot of a feeling."

Richardson suggests that Danville artist Catherine Hashman, who signs her paintings with her maiden name, Catherine Segurson, is one of the Bay Area painters working in an Impressionistic style. "I don't imitate it on purpose," Hashman responds, "but it's a similar style that I use."

The current appeal of Impressionism doesn't surprise Hashman. "It's not overly dramatic in terms of its mood, and it's not overly analytical. People have a lot of limits and inhibitions in their lives these days, and Impressionism just seems like fun."

Like the artists represented in "All Things Bright & Beautiful," Hashman is entranced by the California landscape and believes some of it may be preserved only in paintings. "I've had the urge to paint in the Doughtery Valley lately," she says. "I see the forms of the natural rolling hills, the grasses, the nuances. I get a sense of urgency that I've got to paint it or it's going to be gone."

Stemberg suggests that Impressionist paintings are appealing because the settings are appealing; we'd love to be transported into those scenes. In her radio report from an Impressionist show at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, she asked a curator about criticism that that Impressionism is too pretty, too sweet. "People respond to it," he answered. "It makes them feel good. I don't think there's anything wrong with that at all."

## Lawrence Hall offering summer science camps

Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley's science museum and center for K-12 science and math education is offering four residential summer science camps, including two camps held at actual University of California field research stations.

Each camp emphasizes fun outdoor science explorations through hands-on, inquiry-based activities, as well as lots of traditional camp fun. Each camp has a different theme, and is designed for a specific age group.

Coastline Ecology Explorations, ages 8-10

Camp Jones Gulch, June 14-18

Explore the sandy shore, streams, grassy fields, and groves of ancient redwood trees, using field biology techniques to learn about the local wildlife. A highlight of this campus is a trip to Año Nuevo State Reserve, in search of 18-foot elephant seals. Camp life is complete with swimming, crafts, campfires, stargazing, storytelling, and beach combing at Camp Jones Gulch in the Santa Cruz Mountains, about 10 miles from the San Mateo Coast.

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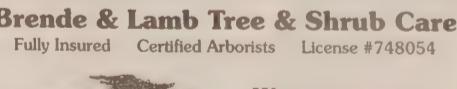
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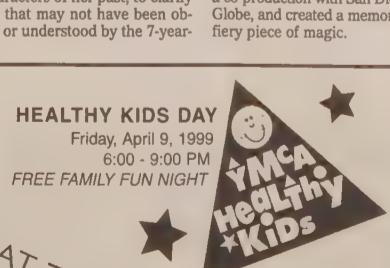
3023 Shattuck Ave.

Berkeley, CA 94705

Our next volunteer training will begin April 10th, 1999.

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For more information call the Berkeley YMCA at (510) 848-9622.  
Financial assistance is available.  
Berkeley YMCA • 2001 Allston Way • Berkeley, CA 94704

# Calendar

Submissions to *Goings on About Town* must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

## Children

**The Downtown Berkeley YMCA** is celebrating "Kids Spring Fling at the YMCA." Kids will have the opportunity to participate in Splash, a program which teaches kids and families to be safer in and around the water. Healthy Kids Day, taking place on Friday, April 9 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., is free to the public and aimed at families spending fun time together while improving their health. Various day camps, aimed at teaching kids the value of honesty, caring, respect, and responsibility are

North Berkeley Yiddish Senior Group, 1 p.m. 1901 Hearst/MLK, Jr. Way Information: 644-6107.

**Christmas In April** needs volunteers for a workday in Albany, Berkeley and Emeryville on April 24. Supplies are also needed. All contributions are tax deductible. Information: 644-8980.

**Friends of Albany Hills** will hold its monthly urban forest restoration project on Saturday, April 24 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Meet at the Taft Street turnaround on top of Albany Hill. Wear long sleeve, work gloves, long pants, socks, sturdy shoes. Learn differential native and exotic vegetation from UC botanist Barbara Erter. For information call Carole Fitzgerald at 528-3236 or Hortensia Chang at 528-8369.



"Bob in the Window," by Susan Cornelis is part of watercolor paintings on display at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery now through May 17 at 1249 Marin Ave. in Albany.

also available. For more information on how to register for the various programs call 848-9622.

## Classes

**Dance and Fitness Classes** open to all in flamenco, Afro-Brazilian, belly-dance, salsa, swing, ballroom, tap, the-atre dance, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido, pilates-based body conditioning and more at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Drop in fees: \$8-\$10. Information: 848-6370.

**The City of El Cerrito** is continuing its lap and water aerobics swim schedule through April 30. Call 215-4376 for schedule, prices and additional information.

**Portraits and Places**, watercolors by Susan Cornelis exhibit will continue through May 17 at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave., Albany. Details: 524-9283.

**Let's Swing and Jitterbug**; 7 p.m. beginning classes, 8 p.m. Intermediate; four-week dance classes beginning the first Tuesday of the month; Finnish Brotherhood Hall, 1970 Chestnut, Berkeley; Diana Castillo, 549-3591; \$40 for four classes.

**Vista College**. Through May 24; "American Fiction: 1945 to the Present" with Dr. Yerudit Goldfarb; \$36 All classes located on the UC-Berkeley campus; 841-8860.

## Health

**YVCA Health and Community Education**; drop in classes in dance, fitness, yoga, martial arts and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way; 848-6370; \$8 - \$10.

## Community

**Kensington 55+ Activity Center** weekly programs, April 8, 11 a.m., on stage, Maxine Brown presents the Fantastic Steppers, 12:45 p.m. Art video: J.W.M. Turner, "The Fighting Temeraire," 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington, 526-9146.

**The North Berkeley Senior Center** has the following events this week. April 1, Video movie: "O Pioneers," 1 p.m.

April 2, Video Opera, "Cavalleria Rusticana," 1 p.m., April 5, Memory Improvement Class, 1:15 p.m., April 6: Mammograms are not always enough with Georgia Henry, RN, 10:30 a.m., April 7, Caregivers Support Group of Alzheimer and Related Disorders, 1:30 p.m., Birthday party for April birthday people, 1 p.m., April 8, Strong women: Writers and heroes of American literature with Helen Wheeler, 1:15 p.m., April 9, Celebration of the Yiddish Language with

Alexandria of the Near Eastern Dance Company of Calif. is teaching bellydancing at Ashkenaz on Saturdays from 1:45 to 2:45 p.m. Call 548-4260 for the location of classes on Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. Ashkenaz is located at 1311 San Pablo Ave.

Age 15 plus (must have job permit if under 18) Ages 12 - 4 for volunteers. Applications may be picked up at the El Cerrito Community Center, 7007 Moeser Lane, Monday through Friday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For information call 215-4370.

"Work Buddies"; volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette

Psychic Healing clinic 7 p.m. - 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief; 1-800-642-9355.

**SMART project**: the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to

## NEW YORK TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE

### RAILROAD CROSSINGS

BY CATHY MILLHAUSER / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

**ACROSS**

- 1 City north of Vallejo
- 5 "A one and —"
- 9 Darlings
- 13 Way off the highway
- 17 Digger
- 18 One of a nursery rhyme couple
- 19 Jordan's Queen — International Airport
- 20 Eye part
- 21 Emulate Cicero
- 22 Terrifying
- 24 Practice logrolling
- 25 Get ahead?
- 27 They go with the flow
- 28 Brew, ng container
- 30 Blended whisky brand or a Valentine's gift
- 32 Ring tossed at pegs
- 34 Make another sheepshank
- 35 Shots, for short
- 36 Mix-up
- 38 Sign in a house window, maybe
- 41 Car of a 1964 song
- 43 Bébé fare
- 45 Period of prayer
- 46 Performer
- 48 Classicist's subject
- 50 Slangy hat
- 51 Stew
- 55 Cut short
- 57 Degrees for C.E.O.'s
- 59 Element form
- 61 Suffix on fruit names
- 62 Get slick, in a way
- 65 Author — S Connell
- 67 His wife was a Duke
- 68 Avg.
- 69 Not a popular next-door neighbor
- 73 First-rate
- 74 "There Is Nothin' Like —"
- 76 Extra-long
- 77 Blessings
- 78 Pres. Hoover's dog King —
- 79 With it
- 82 Engine speed, for short
- 84 Luvs rival
- 86 Ad
- 87 Tout's offering
- 89 Model kit extras
- 91 Cushiness
- 93 Political refugee
- 96 Road — (driver control problem)
- 97 Econ. total
- 98 Ben Franklin, in some books
- 102 Rib
- 104 Those: Sp.
- 108 coup (too late): Fr.
- 109 Fated (for)
- 111 Dean's list, e.g.
- 113 Advisory councils
- 116 Unwelcome person
- 118 Herbaceous ornamental
- 119 Like much folk mus.
- 120 Miniature speedway event
- 123 Laos's — Prabang
- 124 Merit
- 125 Red Brigades victim Aldo
- 126 Literacy volunteer, e.g.
- 127 Diminutive endings
- 128 Nieuwpoort's river
- 129 Water server
- 130 Kind of arch
- 131 Wet septet
- 132 Nativity inn problem
- 133 Old-style call to arms
- 134 Man of many words
- 135 You — right?
- 136 Shrinks' org.
- 137 Lou Grant's paper, in brief
- 138 1961 Britten composition
- 139 Hokkaido port
- 140 Kind of play
- 141 Yale Bowl player
- 142 Spec for some specs
- 143 Wizard
- 144 Feature of Rothe
- 145 Dressed to the nines
- 147 Mint family member
- 148 Old-time pianist Templeton
- 149 Hoosier Hall-of-Famer Bing
- 150 Takes turns
- 152 Food connoisseur
- 154 Principles
- 155 Ring figures
- 156 Post-E.R. place
- 158 Auto founded by an aircraft company
- 159 Henley participants
- 160 Inflamed, in suffices
- 161 Nectar flavor
- 162 One who's earned stripes, e.g.
- 163 Early morning coffee, often
- 164 Nappy wearer's transp
- 165 Mature
- 166 Wife of Jacob
- 167 Vapor form

13 Flotation devices

14 Do the Wright thing?

15 "The Idylls of the King" character

16 Straw-filled mattress

17 Labor leader James

18 Taffeta trait

19 Composer Stravinsky

20 "The sign of extra service" slogan

21 "East of Eden" twin

22 Tent event

23 Neolith or paleolith

24 Stir up

25 Year in John XVIII's papacy

26 Some narcs

27 Made fit

28 Feature of Rothe

29 Builder

30 Kind of therapy

31 Tent event

32 Neolith or paleolith

33 Tent event

34 Flotation devices

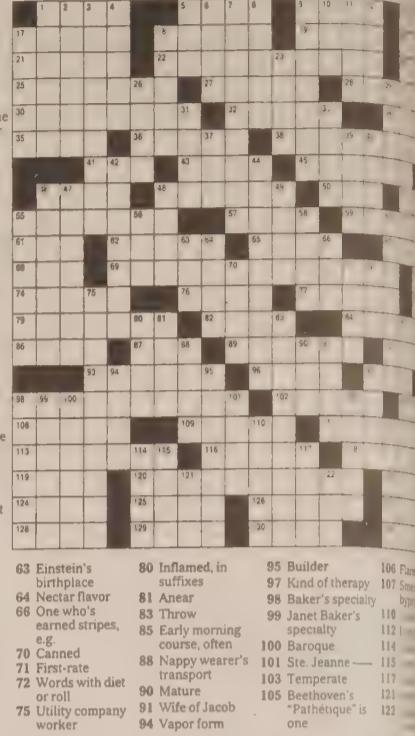
35 Early morning coffee, often

36 Nappy wearer's transp

37 Words with diet or roll

38 Mature

39 Utility company worker



95 Builder

96 Baker's specialty

97 Kind of therapy

98 Baker's specialty

99 Janet Baker's specialty

100 Baroque

101 Ste. Jeanne

102 Temperate

103 Beethoven's "Pathétique" is one

Senior Center 1901

Luther King, Jr. Way 548-2701

Meetings

The City Commons Club

meets on April 2 on 2nd floor

Peter Phillips, Ph.D. Professor of Journalism, Sonoma State

"Project Censorship" On

Karl Kasten will present and talk about "Gauguin Painter and Maker." Meetings begin at 11:15 p.m. in the Ventnor

Meets in the Berkely

Durant Ave. Berkely

Meeting: 848-5333 or 649-4726

Public speaking skills

physics computer science

mathematics first and third

See CALENDAR



**ALEXANDRIA** of the Near Eastern Dance Company of Calif. is teaching bellydancing at Ashkenaz on Saturdays from 1:45 to 2:45 p.m. Call 548-4260 for the location of classes on Wednesdays from 7 to 8 p.m. Ashkenaz is located at 1311 San Pablo Ave.

compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-6802 and agreeing to do three interviews. Individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

**New Beginnings** - a chemical dependency treatment program at Doctors Medical Center in Pinole - offers community support group information, free assessments, education and counselors who can talk about drug and alcohol dependency treatment and prevention. Call 724-1520 for information.

**The Edible Schoolyard**, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1334 for information.

**English-In-Action** lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversational partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley. Call 843-9716.

**Women's Daytime Drop-In Center** in Berkeley; serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5663.

**Events**

**Random Works of Art, 1999**, Fourth Annual multimedia exhibit by eight East Bay women artists, April 4 - May 23. Reception: April 18, 2-5 p.m. Alta Bates Gallery, 3001 Cobyt St., Berkeley.

**Events at Lawrence Hall of Science**, Faery Tales, April 3 and 10, 12:30, 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. Flames, Flares and Explosions, April 5, noon and 1:30 p.m., Medieval Mystery Festival, April 6, noon-2 p.m. Bubble Man, April 7, noon and 1 p.m., Majik's Journey: An environmental circus adventure, April 8, noon and 1:30 p.m., Branicas, April 9, noon and 1:30 p.m. Information: 642-5132. On the University of California Campus.

**Trawick Gallery**, 1316 10th St., announces "Sequences" an exhibition featuring a portfolio of prints formed by 29 internationally-known artists and published by Edition Schellman of New York and Munich. Call Katrina Trawick at 527-1214 for more information.

**Addison Street Windows**, 2018 Addi-

son St., continues its exhibit "Of These No Elegy" through April 2.

**New Pieces Gallery** presents a list of artists for the year 1999. Located on Solano Avenue, **New Pieces** is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

**New Leaf Gallery**, 1286 Gilman St., is featuring "Passages", 12 sculptures explore Explicit or Metaphorical Passages. The exhibit will run through April 18. Hours are Wednesday, through Sunday, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Call 525-7621 for details.

**The East Bay Women Artists** present an exhibit "The Creative Edge" through April 25. Gallery hours are Monday through Sunday 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. The exhibit takes place at Royal Ground Gallery, 2058 Mountain Boulevard. Details call 339-0348.

**The Albany Arts Committee** presents "Portraits and Places," watercolors by Susan Cornelis, on exhibit through May 17 at the Albany Community Center Foyer Gallery, 1249 Marin Ave. Details: 524-9283.

**East Bay Women Artists** present an exhibit "The Creative Edge" through April 25 at the Royal Ground Gallery, 2058 Mountain Blvd. Gallery hours are Monday through Sunday 9 a.m.-7 p.m.

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## "Car Accident Victims Get A Crash Course On Their Rights!"

Albany, Ca. A new free report has recently been released that reveals information every car accident victim should have before they speak to anyone. Research shows that even a "fender bender" can cause pain, headaches, even arthritis. Many car accident victims worry more about their car than they do their rights. If you have been involved in an auto accident listen to the 24 hour toll-free recorded message by calling 1-888-745-4527. The call is free and so is the report.

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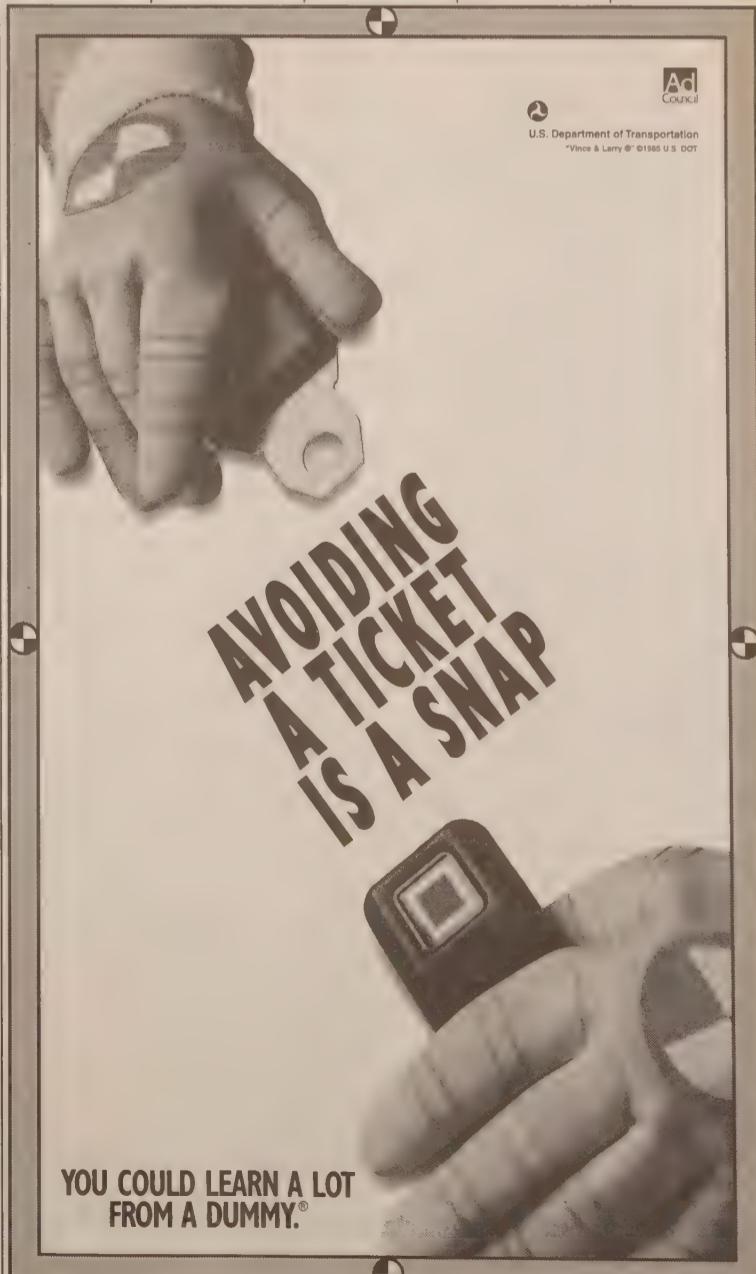
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**Keep the wheels turning!**

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- \_\_\_\_\_ is my contribution to help in any way I can.

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VOLVO '94 850 Wagon loaded, irhr, PS, ABS, wood dashboard, 7-seats, 72K, \$18,000 obo 510-653-5159

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FULL-TIME Nanny Montclair for boy 3 and girl, 50-45 hrs. Res. schl pick-up, creative indoor/ outdoor play. Expr., refl., fluent, English, CDL, own car. Non-smoking envs. mrg. 510-338-9670

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VW Bug, 1967, Clean, orig. eng., refl., fun, CD, \$3,500. 510-865-1100

105 Recreation Vehicles

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BULLETIN BOARD

As a community service The Hills Newspapers is pleased to offer free classified ads. Lost ads free of charge (maximum 15 words for 2 weeks)

201 Announcement

GERMAN exchange student, male, 16. Seeking family for housing in Sept. 1 yr. Paid exp by EF Foundation 408-978-8776

205 Giveaway

URGENTLY need temporary foster homes for homeless animals. Need food, cages, litter, traps. M.A.C. 510-444-3204

NANNIES

Mary Jobs, full-time, part-time, live-in, live-out. No fee. Moms Away, 559-9195.

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ADMIN. Mgr/WordProc, for new Emeryville offc. F/T w/bnts. Min 2 yrs exp. Fax res: 510-974-0123. Attn: Rhonda

MOTHER'S helper, F/T for 2 loving boys 3 yrs old & 7 mos. M- F, 8:30 - 4:30. Must have gd ref, CDL. Non-smoking, fluent English req. 510-655-6735

206 Lost

CAT - sm. blk, short hair, green eyes, named "Unik" (3/23) Montclair/Valleyview Rd. Reward: 510-339-6395

RABBIT - 14 years, DLH, tortoise shell, sweet, spayed, tested, shov. Donation 444-3204

YOUNG Bull mix, very friendly, free to good home 510-540-0386

LAB Mix puppy Bick/Wht, 10 wks, fem, short, spayed, trained. Dog cat friendly. Call Mon. Fri. 8:30- 5:30 510-866-6507

ACCIDENTAL baby-sitter, for Noh' Berkeley family. Pay hrs., excellent pay 444-3204

PEDIMONT Family looking for live-in out childcare provider. Mother's helper for 2 children. F/T, CDL, speak English. 415-364-4680

ADMINISTRATOR

Non-profit graduate schl seeks bright, exp. energetic administrator with superior organizational, writing and people skills Able to take charge, delegate and collaborate effectively in clinical, Social work, Admin. PC proficient (WordPerfect, Lotus or Excel), P/T. Mail/ Fax cover letter and resume to CISGW, 3000 Fillmore St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Fax 415-639-1650

ADMINISTRATOR

Non-profit graduate schl seeks bright, exp. energetic administrator with superior organizational, writing and people skills Able to take charge, delegate and collaborate effectively in clinical, Social work, Admin. PC proficient (WordPerfect, Lotus or Excel), P/T. Mail/ Fax cover letter and resume to CISGW, 3000 Fillmore St., San Francisco, CA 94110. Fax 415-639-1650

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Perform clerical duties such as data entry, Wk processing, filing and record keeping. Must be comp lit. 3 yrs of Adm exp. \$107.50 hr plus full bnts. Resumes and cover letters: POB 2269, Oakland 94621

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SCHOOL key lost for Mercedes Benz around Montclair park area on March 13th Reward: 510-339-2011

EDUCATION

303 Instruction & Tutoring

402 Domestics & Caregiver

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403 Help Wanted

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# The Auto Section

The Montclarion, The Piedmonter, The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, Alameda Journal

April 1-2, 1999

Section D

**New Models** Take a wild ride in a 1999 Porsche 911 Carrera [D3]

**Business** DaimlerChrysler cuts Plymouth in Canada; U.S. line next? [D3]

**Classified** Tell 'em you saw their ad in Motor Mart [D6]

## New Jag 'S' blast from the past

### Road Test

By Arnold and Marion Wechter

Memories flooded our minds as we walked around and then sat in the new S Jaguar for the first time. It was back in the sixties when we purchased a new Mark II 3.8 Jag. It was our proudest personal possession. We polished it weekly and took care of it as if it was a newborn baby.

The new S bears a great resemblance style-wise to our beloved old Jag, but it is so much better. It has the same basic lines, but without actually duplicating specific details. Like the 3.8 of yore, the new model is a compact sport sedan is both appearance and performance.

Though shaped by the past, the S-type is all-modern. The body-color bumpers with chrome inserts meet five-mile-per-hour impact standards and the front bumper provides airflow management and brake cooling ducts. The limousine-style doors wrap into the roof panel for easier entry and exit.

Our memories reminded us that there were many bittersweet moments with the old Jag. Its gear shift was balky, and quality was not its strong point. There was

See JAGUAR, Page D6



THE 2000 JAGUAR S-TYPE.

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# Prevent a car fire by knowing what can start one roaring

**U**p ahead, there's an inexplicable traffic jam at the Interstate exit I've chosen. I hold up at a point where I can rejoin the highway if necessary. What's the trouble? Lazy black smoke hangs over the scene. We've arrived at the tag end of a car fire.

Traffic begins to move again, creeping past a blackened old red sedan. "I think a message is trying to get through to me," I tell my com-

## Drive, she said

By Denise McLuggage

panion. "That's the third car fire I've come across in less than two weeks."

Here's how to respond if you're caught in a car fire:

### Get out and get away

That's your aim. To accomplish it,

if you are under way, you must pull over and turn off the ignition. While this is happening, tell your passengers to unfasten their seat belts, close the windows, unlock the doors and prepare to get out. When stopped, set the brake and get out, closing all the doors behind you. Even if the fire appears to be nothing but a wisp of smoke, getting everyone out and away is the safest measure.

Move uphill away from the car

(burning gasoline runs downhill). Avoid the front or back of the car, because heat could cause the shock absorbers on collapsible bumpers (filled with compressed gases) to explode, turning the bumpers into missiles. Tires often explode from the heat, too.

### Call the fire department

If you do not have a cell phone, find someone who does or locate a

land phone. Note your position by highway number, mile marker or cross streets.

### Help put out the fire

If you have the equipment, do what you can to quell the fire. Smothering a beginning fire with a blanket or coat can be effective. Be leery of opening the hood if an engine fire is underway. You could be burned or feed the fire with fresh air.

If the base of the flame, and you have a fire extinguisher, its stream at that base, indiscriminately. Rescuing your extinguisher could be more to your engine component than a small fire that burns its

Fires in cars are of combustible liquids such as electrical, upholstery and

See FIRES, Page D4

# Avoid expensive surprises; get all of your repair estimates in writing

**D**ear Doctor: Recently, I took my 1996 Ford Contour in for a 30,000 mile maintenance. I brought the car in at 10 a.m. At 12:30 they called me and said the brakes were worn. At 2:25 p.m. I picked up the car. I went to the clerk to pay the bill and was shocked. It was \$530 for the 30,000 mile service and front brakes. Please comment on the bill. Robert

**D**ear Robert: The first thing you did wrong was not ask for an estimate on the 30,000-mile service and the brake service. As for the pricing, it was in line with other dealers. You should also know that any maintenance service can be done by any qualified shop and not void the warranty.

### Is this noise normal?

**D**ear Doctor: I own a 1994 Oldsmobile 88 with 48,000 miles. I went in for a brake inspection because I heard a slight noise just before coming to a stop. The shop said it needed rear wheel cylinders, because they were leaking fluid. I had them replaced, but I still hear a slight noise from the brakes. The shop said the noise is normal. Michael

**D**ear Michael: The brake material used today on American vehicles has a lot of metal imbedded into the friction material. A slight noise is

## Ask the Auto Doc

By Junior Damato

normal. Some import cars squeak and grind just before the vehicle comes to a stop. A constant loud sound is not normal.

### Has Dodge improved?

**D**ear Doctor: In July 1993, I purchased a new Dodge Intrepid. Three weeks later the transaxle failed, and Chrysler replaced the unit. Current mileage is only 25,000 miles and the transmission is acting up again. Are the new Dodge cars built better than my 1993 model? I would like to buy an American car next year. My experience with this 1993 makes me wonder. Walter.

**D**ear Walter: Chrysler has had its share of transmission problems since late 1989. The '98 and '99 models have a better track record. I would not hesitate to buy a Chrysler product.

### Catalytic converter culpable?

**D**ear Doctor: Three months ago I purchased a 1985 Ford Bronco II with a six-cylinder engine. A week ago, my son was driving the vehicle home.

**H**e said it was loosing power, and it was using a lot of gas. Some said the catalytic converter was probably clogged. Would a clogged catalytic converter cause this problem? Dotie

**D**ear Dotie: A clogged catalytic converter would cause a loss of power, however, you also mentioned the gas mileage went down. Too much, or too little fuel will overheat the converter. I would suggest a few simple tests to find out where the problem lies. A back pressure test on the exhaust system will tell if the cat is clogged. Do a spark plug inspection for color or fouling, and a fuel pressure test. If fuel injected, pay close attention to the fuel pressure regulator. If carbureted, make sure the choke plate is open all the way, and the carburetor is not flooding. Make sure the air filter is clean.

### Corolla transmission shifty

**D**ear Doctor: I own a 1988 Toyota Corolla automatic transmission with only 46,000 miles. In the last few weeks, the transmission has been slow to shift from second to third gear until the engine warms up. The transmission will sometimes not shift out of second gear for a mile or so. I had the transmission fluid flushed out and still have the same problem.

**I** have been to two dealers. One says I need a transmission overhaul, the other says to let the car warm up for a while. It has been a great car and I want to keep it. What would you suggest? Jim

**D**ear Jim: Before overhauling the transmission, go to a transmission shop manual with the Toyota transmission and get a third opinion. In fact, Mitchell's On Demand lists technical service bulletin volume 10, T.S.B. # 025. This refers to shifting problems cold. The problem is small rubber check balls in the transmission. The original rubber check balls wear and turn hard and brittle. The original check balls were black, the new check balls are blue, part #35495-22020.

### Gauge light stays on

**D**ear Doctor: I own a 1993 Chevrolet Cavalier, purchased new. Recently, the check gauges light has been staying on. My repair shop has been unable to find the problem. Soon after the check gauges light came on the speedometer stopped working. Clem

**D**ear Clem: The speedometer is electric, and could be connected to the check gauges light problem.

**T**here is a Delco service center in Syracuse, N.Y. called United Radio, 315/446-5570.

### Sudden acceleration cause?

**D**ear Doctor: What causes sudden acceleration? I own a Pontiac Grand Am that has had this problem three separate times. I depress the gas pedal to move a few feet and the car will take off to 50 m.p.h. Please explain. Peter

**D**ear Peter: Sudden acceleration, or unintended acceleration, can be caused from a computer or sensor problem, engine movement (weak engine mounts), or pedal misapplication. I have seen throttle position sensors being the largest problem.

### AM radio picks up whine

**D**ear Doctor: I purchased a 1996 GMC Savana Custom Starcraft conversion van. Since I purchased it my problem is the AM radio while the engine is running. There is a whine that changes with engine speed. The FM side is fine. After several trips to the dealer, the answer was to disconnect the power going to the factory power antenna. There is an additional radio and a TV in the back also installed by Starcraft. Any suggestions?

gestions would be appreciated.

**D**ear Marc: Mitchell's bulletin #90-9-66 and a diagram #19007-03-1A are helpful. If the dealer said the problem is the power to the antenna, unplug the connector or power to the radio for the test. Ignition, alternator, and electric pumps can cause the radio to emit static and whining.

### Wild Idle problems

**D**ear Doctor: I own a 1996 Tempo 2.3-liter four-cylinder injection. Its problems are rough idle, plus bucking and when decelerating. I have had tune-up, and the throttle cleaned. Can you help? Cal

**D**ear Carl: The first thing to have a check of the computer for fault codes. There are no general service bulletins on these items. Plus, TPS and EGR valves are common failures. On some engines, a lazy oxygen sensor or either a rich or lean condition technician who knows how to fix it.

Send questions to: Auto Doctor, Court Circle, Lakeville, MA 02347

## AUTO SHORTS

### MERCER ISLAND, Wash.

#### M-B to back Car Coral

Mercedes-Benz of North America will exclusively sponsor the Concorso Italiano Car Coral for the second year in a row.

The Concorso Italiano will again kick off the 1999 Monterey vintage and car collector weekend at the Quail Lodge Resort in Carmel.

The Monterey weekend, an annual event on the Monterey Peninsula, includes the Laguna Seca Historical Races, car auction, the Pebble Beach Concours d'Elegance and the Concorso Italiano.

While no formal judging takes place, cars are positioned on the lawns of the first fairway at the resort. As Corral sponsor, Mercedes will host a hospitality area open to owners of all cars in the Corral area.

The event will also feature "100 Years of Fiat," a special display of modern Ferrari Formula One cars and presentations of Italian fashion and opera. Concorso Italiano benefits the Carmel Unified Schools, the Carmel Rotary and other Monterey area charities.

### TORRANCE

#### Honda Odyssey named safest in frontal impacts

The government's highest rating for occupant protection in frontal collisions in tests conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has been earned by the new Honda Odyssey minivan.

Tests area based on a frontal impact collision at 35 mph. A five-star rating, the NHTSA's maximum, indicates that there is

less than a 10 percent chance of front seat occupants experiencing a serious injury in this kind of collision when they are properly wearing their seatbelts.

Earning the five-star rating was one of the key development targets for the Odyssey, according to Tom Elliott, executive vice president of American Honda Motor Co., Inc.

### MONTVALE, N.J.

#### M-B flagship S-class gets sharp new ad campaign

The retail launch of the new Mercedes-Benz flagship model — the all-new model year 2000 S-Class — is under way with a national advertising campaign. The campaign consists of two new TV spots, "words" and "artists," and complementary print executions.

The advertising is the latest component of an integrated marketing initiative which began six months ago. Spanning national, regional and dealer level events, relationship marketing, interactive as well as traditional advertising, the S-Class launch represents the most comprehensive marketing effort ever undertaken by Mercedes-Benz of North America, Inc.

The S-Class ads highlight the unique character of the new sedan in terms of its striking design, class-leading engineering and advanced safety/security features. Currently on sale at Mercedes-Benz dealership, the new model is available in two long-wheelbase versions, V8-powered models. The S430 has a Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) of \$69,700. The S500 MSRP is \$77,850.

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Compiled by Arnold Wechter

## SPARE PARTS

### FORD'S NEW FOCUS

The all-new Ford Focus is set to redefine customer expectations of small cars with new levels of roominess, comfort, driving dynamics and safety. Combined with a bold exterior design and an all-new chassis, the Focus is geared to give customers much more car while still providing affordability and value. On sale this fall, Focus is available in three body styles — a sporty three-door, a four-door sedan and a versatile wagon.

### WINTER WEATHER REPAIRS

Now that it's spring, The National Automotive Radiator Service Association says drivers weren't up to speed on last winter's weather. Winter weather car breakdowns can be made less stressful if consumers know their rights. NARS offers a free pamphlet, "Taking the Scare Out of Auto Repair," available through many state attorney general offices. For more information, call (800) 551-3232 or write NARS, P.O. Box 97, East Greenville, PA 18041.

### DYING YOUNG

Black and Hispanic male teenagers are nearly twice as likely to die in a car crash as white male teenagers, according to research at the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research. The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety reports in its January "Status Report" that differences in death rates can be explained in part by patterns of safety belt use.

Compiled by Arnold Wechter

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# The Auto Section

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# Porsche takes wraps off familiar, responsive 911 Carrera

1999 model first redraft of popular roadster in 34 years; new appointments added

## Road Test

By Marion Wechter

The 911 is equipped with an aluminum alloy front and rear suspension, four-wheel disc brakes with anti-lock system, power-assisted rack and pinion steering, plus a six-speed manual transmission. The new five-

See PORSCHE, Page D6

**THE PORSCHE CARRERA**  
(below, right) comes equipped with an aluminum alloy front and six-speed manual transmission.

PORSCHE PHOTOS



## Newly merged Daimler-Chrysler cuts Plymouth line in Canada

Deny plans to cut models here, yet 2000 Neon 'likely last new product'

The future looks bleak for a venerable marque with the announcement by DaimlerChrysler that it is moving toward a more focused brand strategy that leaves little or no room for the newly-merged automaker's Plymouth brand in the U.S., and at the same time hedges its bets on Dodge cars there. In the future, Chrysler Canada will sell cars with a Chrysler name only; trucks through the Ramplate — including one and one sport-utility, and minivans through the Jeep line. Except for a few remaining Jeeps in Canada, all Chrysler

dealers will sell the niche Plymouth Prowler and Dodge Viper sports cars.

According to Chrysler Canada President Ed Brust, "This is the lineup we use everywhere in the world except the U.S."

Daimler-Chrysler officials deny any plans to kill off Plymouth in the U.S., but in the same breath admit there are no plans to give Plymouth any new products beyond the 2000 Neon.

A Chrysler-Plymouth dealer familiar with the discussions says Plymouth's future lies in the success of the 2000 Plymouth Neon. The new Neon went on sale in March in the United States in both Dodge and Plymouth models.

The Dodge version last year out-

## In the Driver's Seat

By Arnold Wechter

"What we are doing is expanding the Chrysler brand, and to the extent that we are successful at that, we are naturally displacing some lower-margin, lower-demographic-profile Plymouth business."

James Holden, Daimler-Chrysler executive VP of North American sales and service

sold Plymouth 117,964 to 78,533 in the United States.

Another dealer believes the move in Chrysler Canada may be a test market for the U.S.

"What we are doing is expanding the Chrysler brand, and to the extent that we are successful at that,

we are naturally displacing some lower-margin, lower-demographic-profile Plymouth business with Chrysler business," said James Holden, DaimlerChrysler's executive vice president of North American sales and service.

"So I'm certainly not on the move to try to expand Plymouth offerings or the Plymouth brand at the moment," he said.

Holden is evaluating how to proceed with the firm's JR lineup, which will replace the existing JA lineup of mid-sized cars — the Dodge Stratus, Chrysler Cirrus and Plymouth Breeze. The JR lineup is due for the 2001 model year.

"I wouldn't say positively that we would redo Breeze if we do Chrysler well," he continued. "We may be able to handle the volume and the demographic profile right with a Chrysler alone."

Canada's streamlining begins with the Neon which will be sold only as a Chrysler. The move eliminates the

Plymouth Voyager minivan and Breeze, along with the Dodge Stratus and Dodge Avenger lower mid-sized cars.

In another move, Ford Motor Company has told its dealers in Canada that it will stop selling the Mercury twins of Ford cars, such as the Mercury Sable and the compact Mystique.

The Sable is a twin of the Ford Taurus and the Mystique is the Mercury version of the Ford Contour.

North America is the favored location of a proposed new Volvo Car Corp. plant. The Swedish automaker, recently purchased by Ford, plans to make a decision by the year's end whether to build a new assembly plant that would take its annual production capacity above 500,000 units.

Until purchased by Ford, Volvo had been searching for prospective sites in several states and had considered building cars at the Normal, Ill., plant owned by Mitsubishi Motors Corp.

The range of possibilities has now

been widened to include shared use of a Ford plant.

Last year, Volvo built 398,500 cars in three main plants, Gothenburg, Sweden; Ghent, Belgium; and the NedCar joint venture with Mitsubishi in Born, Netherlands. The company also builds cars at its AutoNova joint venture with TWR Group in Uddevalla, Sweden, and at kit assembly plants around the world.

A Volvo executive said the company's European plants used only 77 percent of capacity last year.

He said Volvo's output could be increased to 500,000 through easy steps at Gothenburg and Ghent, but going higher would require a new site and if that happens North America would be high on the list.

Last year, Volvo sold 101,171 cars in the United States. It plans to launch the NedCar-built \$40,000 twins in the United States in October.



FORD  
GOES 'TOW TO TOW' against GM's Suburban with this fall's launch of its 2000 Excursion. The

Excursion has a tow rating of 10,000 pounds.

## Ford in slugfest to topple GM in towing

Ford has made a major foray into the heavy-duty towing arena with its all-new Excursion, a release in the fall of '99 as a 2000 vehicle. The Excursion is the next step up from the highly successful Expedition, and it has proven to be a new vehicle for those with weight trailers.

Excursion is a full-size, four-seat passenger wagon built directly at the market premium up to the market premium. Based on the GMC Suburban. Based on the Super Duty chassis (body components), the Excursion is designed to tow a maximum of 10,000 lbs.

Excursion features a variety of features that appeal greatly to towing as well as to those who bought a Suburban but they were GM fans, but became the only game in town.

Excursion is a full-size, four-seat passenger wagon with no after-market hitch or electrical work needed. Each vehicle includes a Class IV receiver out back, along with a pre-wired seven-pin wiring plug.

All Excursions come ready to tow, with no after-market hitch or electrical work needed. Each vehicle includes a Class IV receiver out back, along with a pre-wired seven-pin wiring plug.

A seven-to-four pin adapter is included for those wishing to tow a smaller trailer without brakes. Preliminary maximum tow ratings for the Excursion are as follows: 5.4-L engine 2WD, 7,700 lbs; 4WD, 7,300

lbs; 6.8-L V10 and 7.3-L V8 diesel, 10,000 lbs. each.

Both of the larger engines are rated to tow considerably more weight when fitted in the various Ford Super Duty F-series trucks, a fact that may make some potential Excursion customers with extra-heavy trailers wonder. According to a Ford engineering spokesman, there are two factors at work that produce the lower rating.

First, the Excursion's frame is somewhat thinner than that of the F-series trucks, so it's not rated to handle the extra weight, and second, the average Class IV hitch assembly is only rated at 10,000 lbs. and a 1,000-lb. tongue weight.

Ford employed new trifold doors for access to the truck's aft storage area. The top half of the liftgate raises on pneumatic struts, and the swing-out lower door is split in half with one piece folding to each side. This provides full cargo area access, even with a trailer (and its associated tongue-area equipment) hitched up.

Axle to hitch-ball distance is also important for trailer towing fans. The shorter the better for improved stability, and the Excursion measures about 49 inches from the axle to the locking pin hole in the receiver.

That's pretty good, and combined with the truck's rugged suspension and 137-inch wheelbase, the result

See TOW, Page D6



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# 1936 Graham-Paige Supercharger still flies

Graham-Paige Motors had its ups and downs from 1927 to 1941. Although the three Washington, Ind., Graham brothers, Joseph, Robert and Ray did their best, they couldn't make a go in the automobile business.

In 1936, the motoring public was offered a variety of Graham-Paige models: a Crusader, a Cavalier and the top-of-the-line Model 110 Supercharger.

"The Supercharger model," says Robert Markman, "is taller than my new Volvo." The Houston real estate investor has owned his Graham-Paige about a year.

Markman has been an admirer of Kaiser-Frazer automobiles for some time and, since Joseph Frazer was the last president of Graham-Paige, his interest gravitated to that line of cars.

Markman searched for a suitable Graham-Paige for about four years before locating a likely prospect in York, Pa. It was a 1936 Model 110 Supercharger four door. Markman's brother was scheduled to graduate from Cardozo Law School in New York City last spring and his father was going to be there for the ceremony.

As Markman's father and brother are also antique automobile aficionados, he asked them to take a day off from the graduation festivities and drive down to York, Pa., to inspect the 3,080-pound car. They did so and gave it a thumbs up.

Upon hearing the good news that the car had received a clean bill of health, Markman dispatched a truck to pick up the 112-horsepower car. The 1,400-mile one-way journey went well until Hurricane Georges interrupted the return trip. With the ferocious storm raging the gulf states, the driver, towing a 62-year-old Graham-Paige on a trailer,

## Classic Classics

By Vern Parker

decided to turn back north away from the bad weather.

A few days later, the car was safely in Houston without a scratch. Markman inspected his treasure and was delighted. It sold new with a base price of \$895. Of course, that price did not include the heater, radio or trunk lid.

For an extra \$25, the original owner received a trunk lid for which Markman is happy and grateful. Otherwise, he would have to wrestle the spare tire or anything else in the trunk out from behind the rear seat and through the passenger compartment.

It's the best \$25 the original owner ever spent, Markman says. The spare tire is mounted vertically on the right side of the diminutive trunk.

The handsome car has a split rear window — common in that era — and a one-piece flat windshield kept clear by a pair of wipers, each with its own control switch. Ahead of the windshield is the L-O-N-G two-piece engine hood.

Above the vertical grille is the trademark Graham-Paige emblem: the overlapping silhouettes of the three Graham brothers.

Beneath that long hood is a 217.8-cubic-inch "L"-head Continental six-cylinder engine generating 112-horsepower. The trusty engine is topped with a factory-built supercharger which adds an additional 27-horsepower.

On either side of the two-piece split grille, a chrome-plated trumpet horn hangs beneath the free-standing headlight with the bulbous lens. Sealed beam headlights were still a few



1936 GRAHAM-PAIGE SUPERCHARGER.

years away.

A couple of feet below the horns are the distinctive two-piece curved bumpers separated by about a four-inch gap.

Climbing into the dark blue sedan behind the 100 mph speedometer Markman finds the three-speed transmission shifter protruding from the floor, right beside the hand brake lever. The radio speaker is mounted on the ceiling above the windshield, between the two sun visors. Underfoot is light blue carpeting

with protective rubber floor mats. The light blue upholstery matches the floor covering.

The doors have wind wing vents, but lack door locks. Markman is relieved that the previous owner had the engine and hydraulic brake system rebuilt.

The furthest Markman has driven his distinctive car occurred last October when he drove the Graham-Paige in a local Halloween parade. The 115-inch wheelbase easily handled all the turns nimbly.

"The car looks like it has led a life," Markman says. That'll do. Markman said he intends to travel to most events.

If you have an antique car of interest to "Classic Classics" readers, write to Parker detailing its merits. (Please enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.) His address: 2221 Abbottsford Drive, Henrico, VA 22818.

## Automakers energetic over fuel cell prospects

**W**ho will win the race to be the first auto maker to market with a practical fuel-cell car?

If we were a betting, our money would be on DaimlerChrysler. You can expect the first fuel-cell car to arrive within a five-year period - it takes roughly five years to bring a car to market and this means decisions must be made this year.

Last week, DaimlerChrysler unveiled the latest prototype of a fuel-cell powered car and said it hopes to start selling such vehicles to consumers within five years.

The prototype is an adaption of the Mercedes-Benz A-Class hatchback that is sold in Europe. It runs

on a fuel cell that uses hydrogen to power the car. A fuel cell emits little or no pollution, depending on the fuel it uses.

A member of DaimlerChrysler's board, Klaus-Dieter Voehringen, said his firm hopes to build between 5,000 and 10,000 fuel cell vehicles in its first year of production.

But don't count out Ford. It has invested, along with DaimlerChrysler, about \$750 million in a partnership with Ballard to develop fuel cell systems. Ballard Power Systems Inc., a British Columbia firm, is considered the leading developer of the fuel cell.

The day of the announcement by DaimlerChrysler saw Ballard's stock

soar 19 percent. It closed up \$5.375 at \$34.3125.

A fuel cell is a device that converts hydrogen into electricity to power cars and trucks. In the past few months it has replaced the electric car as the environmental dream of replacing the century-old internal combustion engine.

General Motors, which is now involved in an alliance with Toyota to research fuel cells, bought the farm when it pinned its hopes on its electric car, the EV. Leased, but no sold, in parts of California and Arizona, it has been a major flop. At this writing, less than 600 have been leased. Another major gaffe for CEO Jack

Smith and board chairman John Schmale.

DaimlerChrysler's Ferdinand Panik, who heads the firm's fuel cell program, believes they are out in front, but says: "But it's a race."

Ford, GM and Honda Motor Company have all said they hope to be selling fuel cell cars by 2004.

Following the DaimlerChrysler announcement, GM was bragging that a research team including two GM employees was recognized by the federal government for its work in discovering how to use a liquid fuel such as methanol or gasoline to power fuel cell vehicles.

Fuel cells produce electricity by

mixing hydrogen with oxygen to produce water, heat and electricity.

One of the major problems facing the auto makers is that fuel cells look somewhat like an enlarged compact disc. Fuel cells cannot produce enough electricity to power a car.

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## In the Driver's Seat

By Arnold Wechter



Don't Buy A Car This Sunday! (We'll Be Closed For Easter)

# Remember: Nobody Beats Berkeley!

### '99 COROLLA VE

# \$12,288

after rebate

- Automatic
- Power Steering
- Air Conditioning
- Dual Airbags
- Mats
- Cassette



#242581

### '99 COROLLA CE

# \$12,988

after rebate

- Automatic
- Air Conditioning
- Power Windows
- Power Locks
- Cassette
- Tilt Wheel
- Power Steering
- Dual Airbags
- Mats



#225126

### '99 COROLLA LE

# \$13,788

after rebate

- Automatic
- Air Conditioning
- Power Windows
- Power Locks
- Tilt & Cruise
- Dual Airbags
- Power Mirrors
- Cassette
- Mats



#225127

### '99 CAMRY LE

# \$17,188

Nicely equipped automatics!



Nicely equipped automatics!

### '99 TACOMAS

# \$99/mo.



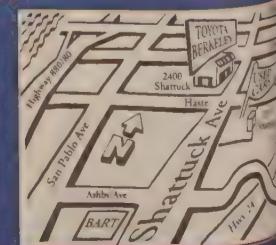
All models \$99/mo.

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'99 Chevy Silverado

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- Air Conditioning
- and much more

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# Porsche

FROM PAGE D3

speed Tiptronic S automatic transmission is available as an option. It allows the driver to shift manually without a clutch.

An increase in the wheelbase to 92.6 inches, a difference of 3.2 inches more than previous models, plus an overall increase in length and width results in more room for stowing luggage which in previous models was a real pain.

With all this new stuff spinning around in my brain there was nothing left but to put the 911 to the test.

A reduction of noise was noticeable and welcome. It made for a much quieter ride. Stiff handling was also gone, although the body construction of high strength steel makes the vehicle stiffer than previous models. Performance is not compromised.

# Fires

FROM PAGE D1

fires caused by your catalytic converter.

## Gasoline fires

Fuel lines can leak, working loose through temperature changes and rough roads. Make sure connections are well-maintained to avoid this happening. Keep your engine clean of oily spills, too, because these are a fire hazard.

## Electrical fires

Insulation on electrical wires can

dry and crack, causing shorts which can smolder and even blaze. Electrical fires are usually preceded by an acrid smell. If your car is emitting such odors, have both the wires under the hood and those behind the dashboard checked. In recent years, some car fires have been blamed on faulty ignition switches. Check with your dealer to learn of possible recalls for this or other fire hazards.

## Upholstery fires

Fires in the upholstery are most often the result of careless smokers. But the smokers needn't be in your car. Pedestrians or people in passing cars can flick a lighted butt in your open window. Upholstery fires can

be particularly dangerous, because they can smolder for hours before bursting into flame; and perhaps then lighting the garage or house as well.

If you allow smokers in your car, particularly those dumb enough to toss a cigarette out the window (it can blow into the back seat instead, as well as possibly burning the countryside) give your car a careful sniff test before putting it away.

Upholstery fires can sometimes be put out by smothering with a garment or by dousing with any coffee, soda or water that is handy. Afterwards, remove the seat from the car and thoroughly checked for hot spots.

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Both engines are matched to a five-speed automatic transmission with Normal and Sport modes and are operated by a J-gate shifter.

Zero to 60 mph takes only 6.6 seconds with the V-8 model. The V-6 takes eight seconds. Both models have a electronically-controlled top speed of 130 mph.

The S-type will have base prices of \$42,500 for the V-6 model and \$48,000 for the V-8.

For the uninitiated, the boxer engine receives its name from the horizontally opposed pistons.

After cranking the 911 up to 90 MPH on the straightaway statistics become a blur.

Two-hundred ninety-six horsepower at 6,800 rpm, 258 ft/lbs of torque at 4,600 rpm with 220 ft/lbs hovering between 2,700 and 7,000 rpm, those dual overhead camshafts with four valves per cylinder. Everything is humming along nicely and that delightful whine of the engine when it slows down on the landing strip is music to the ears.

The 911 Carrera is equipped with vented, cross-drilled front and rear brake discs. This new braking system represents a better feel for the brakes and exceptional brake cooling and are adapted from the Porsche's race cars.

To be honest, I never think about how brakes work or how they are built. But I tried a quick stop and the Bosch ABS 5.3 antilock system

works well.

The Bosch ABS 5.3 system is designed for maximum wheel speed monitoring without pumping the brake pedal in emergency situations.

Also important is the position of the handbrake, which in this rocket is mounted in the center console. I like to be close to the handbrake on a hill. Foot brakes just don't do it.

Standard 17-inch light alloy wheels or optional 18-inch wheels are available for added attraction.

Gas mileage for both city and highway driving averaged 17 MPG for city, and 25 MPG for highway. Not bad considering the furtive bursts of speed and slow-downs when the heavy breathing of the highway patrol interrupted my playtime.

It's a totally new Porsche 911 Carrera with familiar characteristics but better. As I pointed out how can you improve upon perfection? It wants to make me drive off into the sunset and seek out new roads to conquer.

# Carrera 911

## Specifications

■ Type: Two-door sports coupe

■ Base price: \$65,030

■ As tested: \$71,680

■ Options on test car: Arena

red metallic paint (\$605); all leather graphite grey seats (\$3,215); traction control with ABD (\$1,215); rear window wiper (\$335); AM/FM radio with CD player (\$315); destination charge (\$765)

■ Wheelbase: 92.6 in.

■ Overall length: 174.5 in.

■ Width: 69.5 in.

■ Height: 51.4 in.

■ Track, front/rear: 57.3 in.

■ Curb weight: 3,009

■ Fuel capacity: 17 gal.

■ EPA rating: 17 mpg city

mpg highway

rear-wheel drive, six-speed transaxle or five-speed transmission dual-function transmission ■ Steering: rack-and-pinion force-sensitive hydro-assist ■ Brakes: vented cross-drilled front 12.53 in. front discs, cross-drilled 11.78 rear power-assisted, dual circuit piston aluminum alloy monoblock caliper with ABS

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Ford will produce the in fairly limited numbers for year — something under 500 — so given the current popularity the Suburban, it's likely will spend little time on the showroom floor.

This exciting new truck come addition to the towing for those who need maximum capacity and utility in a multi-passenger wagon.

# Choose Healthy Food

# Jaguar

FROM PAGE D1

the time we were cruising along a freeway when the oil gauge suddenly showed no pressure. We immediately stopped the car and had it towed to the garage.

It was the Lucas gauge, not the engine. Another memory: "Why do the Brits drink their beer warm? Lucas refrigeration."

That was then, and this is today. Jaguars until Ford purchased the company several years back had

horrendous quality problems. Ford wisely changed Jaguar's ways and its products are now rated among tops in quality along with other luxury brands.

Ford fixed the quality problem, but allowed Jaguar's engineers and stylists to continue their old practices. The results are cars of high quality with the most beautiful styling in the industry and top-rated engineering.

Named in tribute to the company's high-performance 3.8-liter AJ-V6 of the 60s, the S-type is a blend of the best of the old and the new.

The exterior haunts back to the old, but at the same time delivers a

powerful statement that Jaguar still leads the world in styling.

The V-8 provides 281 horses and 287 ft/lbs of torque, while the V-6 offers 240 horses and 221 ft/lbs of torque.

Both engines are matched to a five-speed automatic transmission with Normal and Sport modes and are operated by a J-gate shifter.

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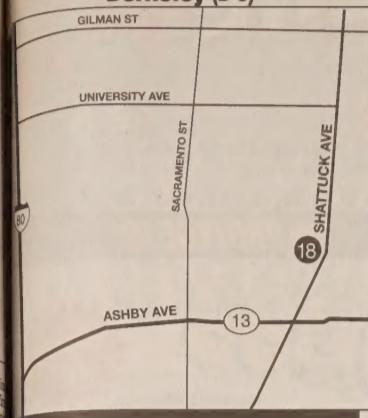
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Zero to 60 mph takes only 6.

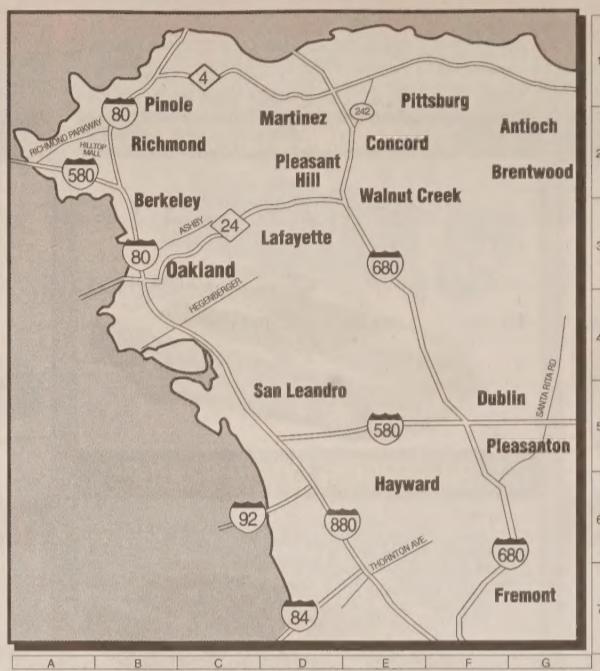
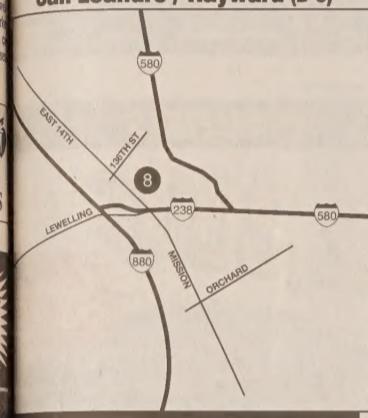
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# Auto Directory

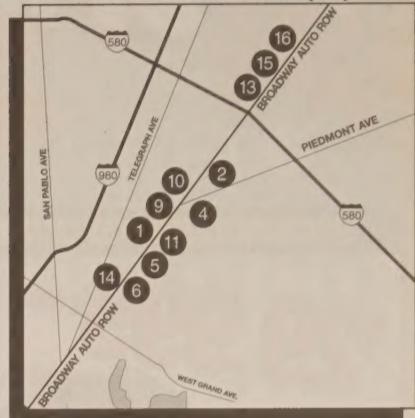
## Berkeley (B-3)



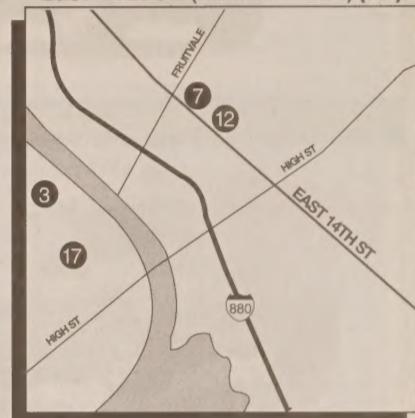
## San Leandro / Hayward (D-5)



## Auto Row Oakland (C-4)



## East 14th St. (International Blvd.) (C-4)



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